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Season 4: Issue 23 Monday 28th July 2008

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WIPE OUT!**

Photo by Steve Starek

**MUCH NEEDED RAIN AND
POWER FAILURES CAUSE VPL
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KWASNIK’S FIRST SEALS DRAW

Central Coast Mariners 1
Wellington Phoenix 1

THE injection of replacement striker Adam Kwasnik proved a masterstroke for the Wellington Phoenix tonight, the former Central Coast Mariners marksman scoring on debut for his new club to earn the Phoenix a 1-1 draw with the Queensland Roar in a 2008 Pre-Season Cup match.

Kwasnik scored in the 74th minute at Stockland Park on the Sunshine Coast to cancel out Sergio van Dijk’s 18th minute goal for the home side and earn the Phoenix the draw, the result putting the Wellington club on top of Group B in the warm-up competition ahead of the Hyundai A-League 2008/09 season.

GLORY FOR VICTORY IN PERTH

Perth Glory 0
Melbourne Victory 1

Michael Thwaite The Melbourne Victory have edged out Perth Glory 1-0 in a solid Hyundai A-League Pre-Season Cup hit-out at Members Equity Stadium on Saturday night.

Michael Thwaite scored the only goal of the game, taking advantage of some static Perth defence to nod the ball home during the 11th minute as Melbourne dominated play during the opening half.

The Victory continued to press for a second after the re-start as Danny Allsopp and Michael Thwaite forced good saves from Glory stopper Frank Juric.

But the visitors dropped their guard in the last 15 minutes, allowing the Glory to dominate possession and set up several chances, with James Downey hitting a wonderful opportunity too softly, allowing Mitchell Langerak an easy save.

The result sees Melbourne move into second on the Pre-Season Cup group table with

ROAR AND PHOENIX FINISH ALL SQUARE

Massimo Muroccca Queensland Roar and Wellington Phoenix have fought out a 1-1 draw on the Sunshine Coast on Saturday afternoon, leaving the home side's Pre-Season Cup final's chances resting on the result of Sydney FC's match against Central Coast Mariners.

It was a niggling start to the cross-Tasman clash, both sides guilty of giving away

Phoenix coach Ricki Herbert was pleased with his side’s continuing development, though he admitted to some concerns about the Phoenix’s slow start to the match.

“Overall it was good, but the first half was average. But we got things going in the second half and were dominant. It was true of the cliché of ‘a game of two halves’ – it was all them in the first and all us in the second.

“I think we were a little lethargic early and slow to get going. They didn’t have a tonne of chances but we just couldn’t get the ball.”

Several canny substitutions by Herbert swung the momentum for the visitors and the introduction of Kwasnik in the 65th minute made the crucial difference. Kwasnik latched on to a cross from fellow replacement Shane Smeltz, the Aussie striker making no mistake to notch his first goal for the Phoenix.

“Good on him,” said Herbert. “I wanted to use Adam for 20-25 minutes and we weren’t too far wrong. He was blowing a wee bit at the

three points, one point behind first-placed Adelaide after the Reds and Newcastle (third two points) drew 0-0 earlier in the night, with Perth in fourth on one point.

There were bad signs for the Glory from the beginning, though, as Frank Juric, in his first game in Australia for 11 years, saw a clearance ricochet off Victory forward Fabiano, with the dipping ball falling wide of the post.

The Victory on the other hand, looked composed in possession, knocking the ball around with authority during the early stages as Danny Allsopp shot wide in the seventh minute.

But the visitors didn’t have long to wait, as the Victory found the back of the net in the 11th minute. Evan Berger picked out an unmarked Thwaite in the box with an inch-perfect free kick, allowing the forward to nod past an exposed Juric.

It took the Glory 16 minutes to really move into attack with any fluency as the pacy James Downey fired in two crosses within a minute. But there was no one on the end of the first one and the second was misdirected, allowing Melbourne to clear.

Perth’s Mark Lee then drove a shot straight at Theoklitos in the 35th minute but despite these efforts, the Glory still looked uncomfortable in possession while Melbourne’s passes were composed and incisive, as Costa Rican double act Carlos Henandez and Jose Luis

cheap fouls, but it was Queensland who had the best of the early chances, Wellington going unpunished after the Roar failed to capitalise on several free-kicks in the opening minutes.

In the 18th minute the home side’s early persistence paid off, when Massimo Muroccca found himself in space on the left flank. The midfielder did well to beat some heavy Phoenix defence, before cutting back to a waiting Sergio Van Dijk at the top of the box, who finished coolly with a surging strike into the top right-hand corner.

Wellington responded quickly, some good build up play setting up their first shot on goal ten minutes later when Michael Ferrante drilled the ball hard towards

end but he looked very comfortable and used his pace to get into good positions.”

The match also provided valuable playing time for several others in Herbert’s squad, with midfielder Richard Johnson, striker Vaughan Coveny, right back Ben Sigmund and goalkeeper Mark Paston all getting valuable minutes under their belts.

“That’s what this competition is all about, providing players with time on the pitch and testing combinations,” Herbert said. “The best thing to come out of this match was to see how we could come out in the second half, get control and show what we’re capable of.

“There are now only a few players in the squad who haven’t had time on the park and next weekend [against Sydney FC] will offer us another opportunity to give them a run.”

The Phoenix’s revamped defence was again tidy and midfield showed plenty of creative potential.

Coming into Herbert’s thinking for Sat-

Lopez combined effectively through the middle with Fabiano threatening on the right.

The Victory also finished the half better as Berger saw a shot collected by Juric before Nick Ward shot wide in the final minute before the break.

Melbourne picked up where it left off after the break as Fabiano slipped a shot wide under pressure from David Tarka before Juric, looking more composed as the game went on, deflected Allsopp’s 64th minute effort wide.

In the 58th minute, Victory coach Ernie Merrick had brought off an underdone Hernandez, bringing on Tom Pondlejak, while compatriot Lopez came off in the 71st minute for Steve Pantelidis after collecting a yellow card.

Without its first-choice midfield, Melbourne dropped its intensity in the final 19 minutes as the Glory increased its possessions, creating more meaningful shots on goal.

The hosts created their best chance in the 76th minute as Dino Djulbic and substitute Nick Rizzo combined effectively to move the ball smoothly down the left before Djulbic picked out Downey with a cross. But Downey’s shot lacked power and was easily saved by Melbourne reserve stopper Langerak, who replaced Theoklitos in the 58th minute.

Adriano Pellegrino and Downey had opportunities in the final 10 minutes but the Victory held on for their first victory of the

urday’s match against Sydney FC in Wollongong will be new defensive signing David Mulligan and midfielders Tim Brown, Jeremy Christie and Leilei Gao.

“We’ve got some good options, so it’ll be a case of assessing everything a little closer to the time.”

The Phoenix now head Group B on four points, one point ahead of the Mariners and Sydney FC after the big city boys were thumped 3-0 in Gosford today..

2008 Pre-Season Cup – Round two
Queensland Roar v Wellington Phoenix
Sunday 27 July 2008
Stockland Park, Sunshine Coast
Crowd: 3832

Queensland Roar 1 (Sergio van Dijk 18’)
Wellington Phoenix 1 (Adam Kwasnik 74’)

Pre-Season Cup campaign.

Perth Glory, 0 - Melbourne Victory, 1 (Thwaite 12’)
Crowd: 3,020 at Members Equity Stadium, Perth
Referee: Craig Zetter

Perth Glory: 20.Frank JURIC (gk), 3.David TARKA, 4.Jamie COYNE, 6.Dino DJULBIC, 8.James ROBINSON, 9.Adrian TRINIDAD, 14.Eugene DADI (15.Hayden DOYLE 68’), 16.Adriano PELLEGRINO, 17.James DOWNEY, 18.Hayden FOXE, 21.Mark LEE (7.Nick RIZZO 46’).
Substitutes: 1.Jason PETKOVIC (gk), 19.Naum SEKULOVSKI.
Yellow cards: Foxe 71’, Djulbic 73’

Melbourne Victory: 1.Michael THEOKLITOS (gk) (20.Mitchell LANGERAK (gk) 58’), 3.Michael THWAITE, 5.Sebastian RYALL, , 7.Matthew KEMP, 9.Danny ALLSOPP, 11.NEY FABIANO, 12.Rodrigo VARGAS, 16.Carlos HERNANDEZ (15.Tom PONDELJAK 58’), 17.Jose Luis LOPEZ (4.Steven PACE 70’), 19.Evan BERGER(6.Steve PANTELIDIS 66’), 22.Nick WARD.
Substitutes not used:
Yellow cards: Lopez 70’

ball directly in front of goal. New Phoenix recruit Adam Kwasnik pounced on the gifted chance, smashing it home and leaving Reddy stranded.

Farina’s men were lucky not to find themselves behind when Smeltz fired another shot born of a Roar defensive error minutes later which went just wide.

While both sides surged forward in the dying minutes, neither could find the back of the net, and both sides were left to take home a point each.

Queensland Roar 1 (Van Dijk 18)
Wellington Phoenix 1 (Kwasnik 74)

BOSNICH STARS IN MARINERS’ WIN

Central Coast Mariners 3
Sydney FC 0

Mark Bosnich Mark Bosnich made a triumphant return and looks certain to sign with the Central Coast Mariners after a man of the match performance in a 3-0 win over Sydney FC in round 2 of the Pre-Season Cup.

Bosnish made the most of his first start in more than six years with a brilliant display between the sticks at Bluetongue Stadium, Gosford.

The former Australian and Manchester United shot-stopper made a dream return, pulling off several outstanding saves, including a penalty save from Sydney captain Steve Corica in the 70th minute.

Bosnich dived to his left to block Corica’s spot kick after Brad Porter fouled Sydney striker Alex Brosque.

That saved followed a brilliant diving effort from a powerful shot from Terry McFlynn in the 29th minute.

He also pulled off two diving saves from open play in the second half.

The effort of Bosnich was the highlight of an impressive Mariners performance.

Porter opened the scoring with a well-taken goal two minutes before half-time.

The Mariners sealed their first win of the Pre-Season Cup with two goals in eight minutes midway through the second half.

Former Sydney striker Sasho Petrovski got the first in the 60th minute before replacement Nik Mrdja netted from the penalty spot soon after.

Sydney tried hard but lacked spark in attack, while the Mariners were very impressive in defence and attack.

Central Coast 3 (Porter 43, Petrovski 61, Mrdja 68pen) - Sydney FC 0
Crowd: 7,107 at Bluetongue Stadium, Gosford

Referee: Chris Beath

Central Coast Mariners: 40. Mark Bosnich (gk) (20. Danny Vukovic (gk) 81’), 5. Bradley Porter, 7. John Hutchinson, 10. Adrian Caceres, 11. Dylan Macallister, 15. Andrew Clark, 18. Alex Wilkinson, 21. Ahmad Elrich (17. Matthew Osman 78’), 22. Sasho Petrovski (9. Nik Mrdja 63’), 24. David D’Apuzzo, 26. Predrag Bojic
Unused Subs: 2. Andre Gumprecht
Yellow Cards: D’Apuzzo 32’, Clark 35’, Petrovski 56’, Porter 70’
Red Cards: None

Sydney FC 1. Clint Bolton (gk), 2. Iain Fyfe, 3. Nikolas Tsattalios (18. Adam Casey 46’), 4. Simon Colosimo, 5. Mitchell Prentice, 7. Robbie Middleby (21. Adam Biddle 75’), 10. Steve Corica (16. Chris Payne 75’), 14. Alex Brosque, 15. Terry McFlynn, 17. Jacob Timpano, 26. Dez Giraldi
Unused Subs: 20. Ivan Necervski (gk)
Yellow Cards: Corica 49’, Brosque 63’, Fyfe 68’, Colosimo 74’, Payne 78’, Giraldi 86’
Red Cards: None

GROUP A				
	W	D	L	PTS
Adelaide	1	1	0	4
Victory	3	1	0	4
Jets	0	2	0	2
Glory	0	1	1	1

GROUP B				
	W	D	L	PTS
Phoenix	1	1	0	4
Mariners	1	0	1	3
Sydney	1	0	1	3
Roar	0	1	1	1

Round 2				
Jets v Victory	KO2:30 pm	2/08		
Adelaide v Glory	KO2:30 pm	2/08		
Sydney v Phoenix	KO7:30 pm	2/08		
Roar v Mariners	KO3:00 pm	3/08		



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AIS KICKED OUT

VPL Clubs Axe Canberra Kids

VICTORIAN football was rocked to its foundations last week when 13 Foxtel Cup clubs held a secret meeting at which they decided unanimously to dump the AIS from next season's competition.

The meeting was so hush-hush that organisers were loathe to name the location after the event but I understand that the rebel group met at Rydges on Bell in Preston at 7pm last Wednesday resulting in an ultimatum being delivered to Football Federation Victoria, forcing the hand of FFV CEO Mark Rendell who has agreed to attend the group's next meeting set down for Wednesday 13 August. It's my understanding that one of the driving forces behind the meeting was Aki Ionnas from Oakleigh Cannons, who is Chairman of the Men's Standing Committee which represents all men's leagues under the FFV umbrella. Ionnas was unavailable for comment as we went to press but I believe that the meeting was arranged in response to a request from clubs that the issue be confronted.

Anger at the way the AIS was given a place in the sport's elite competition here without having to comply with a host of entry requirements foisted upon every other club has been simmering for the past two seasons. That anger now threatens to undermine FFV's strategic plan which already has taken a bruising by having the elite men's competition in the upcoming summer league put back a year to 2009.

I have been told by the rebel group that the elite men's competition in the new summer league will never eventuate. They see the summer competition and the structure of the league as a way of undermining their club interests. They even claim that Football Federation Australia is unhappy with FFV for putting on a competition which will run at the same time as the A-League.

AIS assistant coach Ray Junna was taken aback at news of the rebel action but said that last season the Canberra-based outfit could see that other Foxtel Cup clubs were disenchanted by the youngsters' presence in the elite league.

"I got the feeling last year that we weren't wanted," said Junna. "In a way I guess the FFV is a toothless tiger. No-one seems to have the balls to say that this is the best developmental path for the elite players in this country. Every club has its own agenda and that's all that matters as far as they are concerned."

The irony in the timing of last week's move is that there was a cloud hanging over the AIS's involvement in the league anyway as the institute was yet to find out from the FFA what the ramifications of the new national youth league will be for the AIS development program. Indeed, the program faces the prospect of being scrapped with the AIS turning into little more than a national team training camp.

"I don't even know whether the FFA knows



Jason Naidovski: Played for the AIS after signing forms with the Newcastle Jets.

right now where we are heading with the national youth league," said Junna.

"We've got issues with not getting the best players into our system now. If A-League clubs offer the best youngsters a senior contract then we can't get them. These kids could sit at home on \$30,000 a year hoping that they get a first team game yet they could be here at the institute forming the nucleus of the country's next under-20 campaign.

"We've been in talks with the FFA for some time now about this situation and while the best outcome from our perspective is to have the AIS working the same way as it has been my own feeling is that the FFA may well lean towards the (A-League) clubs taking a bigger hand in player development."

The future of the AIS program should be clearer come September yet the man with a lot of say in this matter, FFA National Technical Director Rob Baan, is at the centre of a rumour that he could be leaving the post.

One Foxtel Cup club official, who did not attend last week's meeting and did not want to be identified, outlined what he saw as the main gripe against the AIS involvement in the league.

"We all got told that they were coming into the league and the way it was done was a like

it or lump it situation. VPL clubs ended up suffering because of the AIS yet these same clubs had to pay untold amounts of money just to get into Premier League," he said.

"VPL clubs are out of pocket anywhere between \$2000 and \$3000 whenever they play the AIS in Canberra. On top of that we're forced to meet regular criteria whenever we host the AIS down here despite there being no AIS crowd at the game. We've still got to meet security costs, catering costs and the costs of match officials so you're losing out financially every time you play them.

"The AIS don't have to meet any of the criteria that we are forced to comply with. Up there you've got a half a kilometre walk from the car park to the pitch, there are no canteen facilities and the lights are little more than Fourth Division training lights at best. We wouldn't be allowed to use them down here. "There's no player race, no security and the refs have to be flown up from Victoria. I even think that the linesmen now are flown up because the local linesmen received so much criticism that they've refused to do the job.

"There's no registration period for the AIS, no transfer windows. They can play who they like, when they like. They have played players already registered with A-League clubs. We can't do that. They flew the boy Naidovski down for their games. He's been signed with Newcastle Jets for some time now. Imagine if we fielded a dual registration player. What do you think would happen to us?"

My take on the inclusion of the AIS in the Foxtel Cup last season is that FFV knew that it had to be delivered to clubs as a fait accompli. In other words, FFV saw itself as having the depth of vision all too absent from a club perspective and had it attempted to deal with the issue in a consultative fashion it would never have reached agreement with the clubs.

But the club response has been stunning. What started out as little more than a tantrum has escalated into open warfare. The ball is now firmly in the FFV's court but as Rendell prepares to play a retaliatory shot he's facing 13 sets of angry eyes glaring at him from the other side of the net.

This battle has now drawn the attention of clubs outside the Foxtel Cup as the rebel group's action threatens to cloud the promotion and relegation issue. If the AIS no longer competes in the Foxtel Cup then how will FFV balance the number of teams in the competition? The knock-on effect of last week's shock move could affect every promotion and relegation candidate throughout the leagues.

It also affects the Victorian Institute of Sport team which is the AIS reserves side in the Foxtel Cup under-21 competition. Imagine that – the rebels have not simply rounded on the Canberra kids, but by default they've also given the thumbs down to the Victorian kids.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

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Scoreboard

FOXTEL CUP STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Green Gully Cavaliers	22	12	8	2	35	14	44
Melbourne Knights	21	11	9	1	40	21	42
Altona Magic	21	10	7	4	32	24	37
Heidelberg Utd	22	9	8	5	33	26	35
Richmond	22	9	6	7	51	31	33
Oakleigh Cannons	20	9	6	5	23	16	33
A.I.S	22	9	4	9	36	31	31
Preston Lions	21	9	3	9	28	37	30
South Melbourne	22	8	3	11	30	28	27
Coburg Utd	21	8	3	10	26	31	27
Whittlesea Zebras	22	5	7	10	27	31	22
Western Suburbs	22	5	6	11	20	32	21
Fawkner Blues	22	5	3	14	19	52	18
Frankston Pines	22	4	3	15	16	42	15

RESULTS

Richmond Eagles	2 - 2	Heidelberg United
ALtona Magic	1 - 0*	Coburg United
Frankston Pines	2 - 1	Whittlesea Zebras
Melbourne Knights	P - P	Oakleigh Cannons
Fawkner Blues	1 - 0	South Melbourne
Western Suburbs	0 - 1	Preston Lions
AIS	1 - 2	Green Gully Cavaliers

UNDER 21 DETAILS

Richmond 1 Heidelberg Utd 2, V.I.S 1 Green Gully Cavaliers 4, Altona Magic 0 Coburg Utd 2, Frankston Pines 0 Whittlesea Zebras 1, Melbourne Knights Oakleigh Cannons , Western Suburbs Preston Lions , Fawkner Blues South Melbourne

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Green Gully Cavaliers	22	15	3	4	38	16	48
V.I.S	22	11	7	4	40	21	40
Richmond	22	13	0	9	45	27	39
Coburg Utd	22	11	3	8	37	30	36
Melbourne Knights	21	10	6	5	27	28	36
Preston Lions	20	9	6	5	30	19	33
Oakleigh Cannons	20	8	6	6	21	17	30
Whittlesea Zebras	21	9	2	10	36	37	29
Fawkner Blues	19	8	3	8	22	25	24
Western Suburbs	20	7	5	8	25	28	23
Altona Magic	22	7	2	13	21	34	23
Frankston Pines	22	6	2	14	14	27	20
South Melbourne	21	4	5	12	15	36	17
Heidelberg Utd	22	3	4	15	21	47	13

THE TOP MARKSMEN

Player	Matches	Goals
Cardozo, Pablo Richmond SC	19	16
Barisic, Andrew Melbourne Knights SC	20	14
Curcija, Michael Altona Magic SC	20	12
Naidovski, Jason A.I.S	13	12
Cardozo, Richard Richmond SC	21	10
Lagana, Frankie M Oakleigh Cannons FC	18	10
Karpeh, Jerry Whittlesea Zebras FC	21	9
Nikolic, Joel Green Gully Cavaliers	20	9
Danning, Kofi D A.I.S	20	8
Catalano, Michael Richmond SC	22	7
De Moraes, Fernando South Melbourne FC	20	7
Sapazovski, Johnny Preston Lions SC	19	7
Sterjovski, Tony Preston Lions SC	17	7

ROUND 23 FIXTURES

COBURG UTD
V
RICHMOND EAGLES
Knights Stadium
Sat 2 Aug KO 6:00PM

PRESTON LIONS
V
GREEN GULLY
BT Connor Reserve
Sun 3 Aug KO 3:00PM

WESTERN SUBURBS
V
FRANKSTON PINES
Ralph Reserve
Sun 3 Aug KO 3:00PM

SOUTH MELBOURNE
V
ALTONA MAGIC
Bob Jane Stadium
Sun 3 Aug KO 3:00PM

MELBOURNE KNIGHTS
V
A.I.S
Knights Stadium
Sun 3 Aug KO 3:00PM

OAKLEIGH CANNONS
V
FAWKNER BLUES
Jack Edwards Res
Sun 3 Aug KO 4:30PM

HEIDELBERG UTD
V
WHITTLESEA ZEBRAS
Olympic Village
Sun 3 Aug KO 5:00PM

Please check the
FFV website
for any fixture changes.





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SPORT

1 - 2

GREEN GULLY
CAVALIERS

GULLY WIN SCHEDULED MATCH

Gully Back On Top In Foxtel Cup

It seems like the word farce and Foxtel Cup have been put together a few times already this year and the two must be mentioned in the same breathe again. The Foxtel Cup fixture scheduled for a 5pm kick off in Bendigo largest stadium (Queen Elizabeth Oval) was farcically moved to Green Gully Reserve for a 7:45pm kick off. Referee Perry Mur rightfully abandoned the game at Queen Elizabeth Oval as the pitch was heavily water logged. This reporter inspected the pitch himself and at first glance it seemed OK to play on, until yours truly noticed a massive cricket pitch in the middle of the field which had turned into a mud bath thanks to the down pour over night.

So the decision was made to move the game back to Green Gully Reserve. I am assuming this was so to save the AIS an extra trip into

Melbourne to avoid playing a midweek catch up game. I do not know if the powers at be who made this decision considered the fact Green Gully now get an extra home match this season and players match day routines would have been disturbed due to the switch in kick off time.

The game finally got underway nonetheless and the AIS opened the scoring in the first half after some good work by Kofi Danning down the wing and took a 1-0 lead into half time. Gully fought back and eventually scored an equaliser late in the game after the AIS failed dealing with a corner. Gully manage to score a winner not long after pulling level when the AIS again failed to deal with a corner, the Gully shot cannoned into AIS defender and the ball went in for an own goal, which seems like the flavour of the

week after there were own goals in games both Friday and Saturday night. Gully took the points but the only ones who saw it were the 50 or so diehard Gully fans who caught the bus up to Bendigo and all the way back.

The game ends a crazy weekend in the Foxtel Cup. First Saturday night's lights calamity at Altona, then all U21 games were called off on Sunday along with the Knights v Cannons seniors fixture and it all ended with the most absurd match rescheduling.

Crowd: 50

By Michal Skrodsky

Photos by Daniel Flis

The Green Gully
Soccer Show
10.30am Every
Saturday on C31

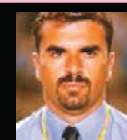


Goalmouth action from the rescheduled match between the AIS and Green Gully last night

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FRANKSTON
PINES

2- 1



WHITTLESEA
ZEBRAS

PINES TOO GOOD FOR ZEBRAS

Pines Fight On, Zebras In Dire Trouble

Frankston Pines have had another impressive performance at home unbed lights in a dominant 2-1 over fellow relegation contenders in the Whittlesea Zebras.

The Pines won the game through tight defending and keeping their structure making it almost impossible for the Zebras to create any chances let alone score. The loss really leaves the Zebras facing a massive uphill battle to avoid the drop. If the Zebras do drop along with Fawkner who look like they will drop too, this will leave the VPL with no Italian backed clubs which would be a huge shock thing considering what some Italian clubs have achieved before both at state and national level. Frankston continues its improved second half of the season, it must be something to do with those lights. Ever since the Pines installed their state of the art lights at Monterey Reserve they have rarely been beaten. The game was an entertaining one from a neutral perspective as it was two teams battling it out and playing for survival, it was a real passionate affair.

The game started very badly for the Zebras with their Brazilian star Junior De Melo suffering what looked like a very painful knee injury in the 5th minute. He did it fouling one of the Pines midfielders, it appeared he twisted his knee which could possibly mean he may have ruptured an ACL but hopefully it's not that serious. Frankston looked very quick up front and their pace was troubling the Zebras back-men. Frankston took an early lead when Simon Mur buried a shot from the left hand side of the box past the reaching arms of Simeoni in the Zebras goal. The Zebras started dominating possession and territorial advantage but the Pines stood strong and kept their shape. The Zebras almost scored when they created their best chance of the game. The ball fell to the Zebras forward but his shot for close range was blast over the bar. The Zebras finally did score from a set piece in the last minute of the first half. The Zebras played the corner to



Dressing rooms celebrations after the Pines knocked off the Zebras

the back stick and poor Frankston marking led to Goran Talevski finding some room, he beat one defender and shot home. It was 1-1 at half time.

The second half was a passionate affair with both teams going all out for the points, this led to some great end to end football. The Zebras threw the first punches of the second half, whipping in many dangerous crosses that Pater Zois struggled in dealing with. The game really opened up in the 60th minute, where both teams could have taken the lead.

Saad got a head on and had a great chance to score but unfortunately for the home fans he missed the target. Then in 30 seconds it was almost the Zebras scoring, this time Liberian sensation Jerry Karpeh had a magical run down the by line, beating two Pines defenders, but his cross was somehow scrambled away for a corner. Only 8 minutes later Frankston threw what was in the end, the knock out blow. On the break Skledar found heaps of space on the right hand side of the box, his shot was well saved by Simeoni but the rebound fell to Zebras defender Ross

Antoniadis who bundled the goal into his own net whilst trying to clear for a corner, to his defence he was challenging for a 50/50 ball with the Pines striker. From there Whittlesea starting piling on the pressure but couldn't create any clear cut chances. As the Zebras pushed for an equaliser the Pines looked very dangerous in the counter and should have sealed the game as they wasted many great counter attack opportunities. The final whistle blew and the Pines were off the bottom of the Foxtel Cup ladder for the night until Fawkner Blues managed to get an unexpected win over South Melbourne.

Frankston Pines

Line Up: Zois, Hawkins, Dimozantos, Booyesen, Reichnein, Mur, Smart, Fadljevic (Chiapetta 82'), Skledar, Saad (Morris-Thomas 80'), Metcalfe

Goals: Mur 16', Antoniadis (OG) 68'

Yellow Cards: Reichnein 13', Booyesen 39', Dimozantos 61'

Red Cards: none

Whittlesea Zebras

Line Up: Simeoni, Antoniadis, Vazzochi, Molan, Talevski, Lombardo, O'Hare (Vulic 75'), Karpeh, Pistinzinzi, Colosimo, De Melo (Martin 5')

Goals: Talevski 44'

Yellow Cards: none

Red Cards: none

Man of the Match: Skledar (Frankston Pines)

By Michal Skrodsky

Photo by Michal Skrodsky



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ALTONA
MAGIC

1 - 0*



COBURG
UNITED

BLACK OUT!

**Power failure forces match to be abandoned*

The round 22 Foxtel Cup match between Altona Magic and Coburg United at Paisley Park on Saturday night was abandoned due to floodlight failure.

At the time, the score was 1-0 to Altona Magic after a beautiful goal scored by Pece Cergovski in the thirty-second minute. FIFA referee Hakan Akaz made the decision, in accordance with FFV competition rules, after 25 minutes had passed and all endeavours were made by officials to try and restore power.

The lights went out at approximately 7.20pm, leaving the strong 450+ crowd in darkness,. The flame at the refinery next door to the ground suddenly projecting its prominence from the horizon.

A decision will have to be made by Tuesday whether or not the match will warrant a full replay or recommence the match at the minute play ceased.

It's not the first time Paisley Park has been subject to floodlight failure. During Altona's Foxtel Cup match against Frankston Pines

earlier in the year, play was again forced into a short recess as attempts were made to restore lighting. On that occasion the lights eventually did come back on and ironically, Pece Cergovski scored the only goal that night as well as Altona were victorious 1-0. Spooky stuff!

The goal against Coburg was a polished finish after a strong build up from the home side culminating in Cergovski blasting his superb shot into the bottom corner of the net.

It was just reward for Altona who had dictated play in an opening encounters and were dominant in their moves going forward.

The episode is also reminiscent of the Richmond Eagles v Heidelberg United 2006 VPL fixture when the lights also went out when the Bergers were leading 1-0 at the time. The match was replayed a short time later, kicking off again from the minute in the match where it came to a sudden halt. The Bergers went on to score again and ran out winners 2-0.

Speaking to Goal! Weekly Altona Magic

coach Vlado Torteovski expressed his disappointment, "It's not fair for the supporters who had shown up on a really cold night and I feel sorry for them because it was turning out to be one of one of the better games I had personally seen in the Foxtel Cup over the last five or six weeks. It's a shame that it has happened at our home ground and unfortunate for tonight's fixture to finish like that. From a coaching perspective, we've lost all the momentum after being on top of Coburg for the first half an hour and now have to start again. But, whatever decision they make we have to obey the rules and we'll make sure that we're ready."

Match details:

Altona Magic:
B.Jevdejevic, C.Anthopoulos, S.Laurie, D.Mladenovic, H.Fa'arado, C.Recchia, P.Seveski, P.Cergovski, P.Riccobene, E.Masi, N.Kalmer.

Goals: Cergovski 32'

Yellow cards: None

Red cards: None

Coburg United :

T.Kovar, S.Kovacevic, A.Gurpinar, S.Pir, B.Beni, T.Baser, A.Vlahos, N.Lazarevski, A.Magnacca, P.Tichy, A.Josifovski.

Goals: None

Yellow cards: None

Red cards: None

Crowd: 500

Venue: Paisley Park

*Match abandoned due to floodlight failure at 7.45pm.

By Gordon Bennet

Photo by Daniel Flis



Pece Cergovski opens the scoring against Coburg United on Saturday night. With the match abandoned due to floodlight failure, the question now begs, for how long will the goal stand?



MELBOURNE
KNIGHTS

P - P



OAKLEIGH
CANNONS

WIPE OUT!

Waterlogged Pitch Delays Important Fixture

An overnight downpour of rain has forced the abandonment of the important clash between the Melbourne Knights and the Oakleigh Cannons.

The Under 21's fixture was also originally abandoned in order to save the pitch for the seniors match. However with an hour before kick-off the heavens opened up again to ensure this fixture was not going to be played today.

The interruption to the fixtures make the run home more difficult for the Cannons, who have to already play a catch up game this Wednesday against the Preston Lions.

However Melbourne Knights

Captain Craig Elvin was more in more of an upbeat mood; "It happened to us last year, it won't hamper our preparations at all, we are confident of getting the results we need", stated Knights best and fairest from last season.

The unplanned break will allow the Knights to rest up and prepare for the lead up to the Foxtel Cup Finals. Stay tuned for further details regarding this fixture.

By Andrew Fisher

Photos by Daniel Flis



Slip and slide at Somers Street...

VALIANT VLADO VANIS VANQUISHED

Madame Guillotine raised her ugly head at Fawknor last week with the sudden and "mutual" departure of coach, Vlado Vanis.

Brought in after a failed stint at Bentleigh Greens late last season he helped rescue Fawknor from relegation, managing to change the fortunes of Fawknor within the last four games of the season by keeping them up for another season in the VPL.

In a Goal! Weekly exclusive, we caught up with Vlado who was very diplomatic about the sudden turn of events.

"We were working very hard from both sides of the club, but at the end of the day all that was missing was the result. The boys didn't play bad, it's just the results

didn't come our way. Every game we were copping two or three goals, but that's not to say we didn't make chances before we copped those goals. We just didn't finish the chances we had."

"After we lost the game to Coburg last week (2-0) I was disappointed because we had a few good chances to be in front, and they are a quality team who punished us for missing those chances. That seemed to be our story week in week out. The club thought it to be in its best interests to try something new as they are in the same position now, as they were this time last year."

"It was a 50/50 decision; we both feel that it's the right time and for the right reasons. They realize that I can't do more with the club than what they are currently doing. I am personally happy with the effort I put in at the club, considering the budget and players. They are a good bunch of boys, and I wish them all the success they deserve."

"I'm glad that I am always going to be welcome at the club, and there are no hard feelings between us. I wish the new coach (Carlos Retre) and to the club all the best with the rest of the season."

With only a handful of games left in the VPL minor round, the Blues have looked to none other than former Fawknor player and VPL top scorer, Carlos Retre to hopefully restore some pride back at the Azzuri outfit.

He couldn't have asked for a better start than with a debut win against South Melbourne. The Azzuri fired a 1-0 broadside which has all but sunk the South challenge to the play-offs.

Fawknor are looking at another Houdini act.

Who's to say they can't do it again?



Sweet & Sour

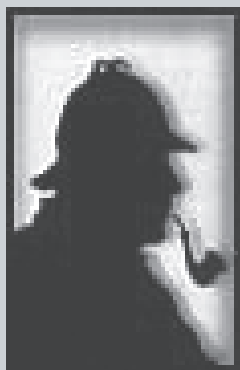
South Melbourne youngsters Tony La Verde and Robert Wynne have reportedly been signed on two year contracts with the Melbourne Victory, but the celebrations turned sour after regular training with their current club South Melbourne.

La Verde was seriously injured in a from behind tackle which has resulted in a knee injury which might keep the young midfielder out for twelve months, while Wynne had his nose broken in a crude challenge from another team mate.

This would have to be the coincidence of the decade that the two boys who have signed with Victory are both taken out at training by team mates. It is reported that La Verde's father is very upset over the incident, who is also questioning the coincidence of the signings and the injuries.

Managers See Red

Essendon Royals Junior Manager Frank Zorzanello and Green Gully Junior Manager Joe Schembri have both been suspended until the end of the 2009 season after it was alleged that they tried to influence an official to change his handing out of a red card. Rumours say that the match official sent off the wrong player which is why the Gully Manager was questioning the match official about the send off, and that the Royals Manager was at the wrong place at the wrong time. Considering this was just a juniors match and that an attempt to right a mistake was the goal of the manager one questions the severity of the punishment and the heavy handed fine; one would be forgiven for thinking this is nothing more than a money making exercise and an over zealous prosecution of the two managers.



THE SLEUTH



RICHMOND
EAGLES

2 - 2

HEIDELBERG
UNITED

THRILLER AT KB RESERVE

Sivic breaks leg, Out for season

Another mild night at Kevin Bartlett Reserve saw plenty of hot action on the pitch as Richmond hosted Heidelberg United.

Draws with Whittlesea Zebras and Frankston Pines had the Eagles chasing a win which would halt their slide down the Foxtel Cup table which had seen them enter the game in sixth place. Wins over Fawkner and Altona Magic had seen Heidelberg storm into fourth place and lay claims to being the form team of the competition.

It was the away side who would have the better of a lively opening to the match. In the fourth minute Stuart Webster was forced into tipping the ball over the crossbar by a header from Mark Tsiorlas. From the resulting corner the ball ended up rolling all the way across the goal-face after a scrimmage at the right-sided post before being cleared. In the sixth minute a cross come shot from Marino Gasparis on the left bounced just wide of the far post.

The Eagles first decent attack came in the eighth minute, Pablo Cardozo receiving the ball near the halfway line and laying it to Dimitri Tsiaras coming through on his inside. Tsiaras found George Goutzioulis who made a run and then cut in from the left flank and shooting just beyond the far post.

A high ball into the box in the eleventh minute saw Josh Groenewald head towards goal, with Noel Bahnsen getting back to clear the ball off the Richmond line. At the other end a minute later it was Goutzioulis cutting

in from the left again providing a threat, but his shot from twenty-five yards was straight at Peter Gavalas. Gasparis shot across the face of goal when put in a promising position by a great ball from Dennis Alilovic two minutes later.

On sixteen minutes Alilovic tried to catch out Webster with a free-kick, striking the dead ball from the edge of the box on left side as the keeper stood on a post arranging his wall, but the shot was wide. Five minutes later Bahnsen made a great last man tackle on Tsiorlas just outside the box when Heidelberg had the Eagles defender at their mercy when he had kept three attackers onside.

The frenetic pace settled before Richmond took the lead against the run of play on the half hour. Semir Sivic had made his way to the right corner, having one cross blocked before getting the ball into the penalty area. The ball looked like it may have fallen for Pablo Cardozo, but just as it landed too far ahead of him Michael Catalano ghosted in behind and slammed the ball into the net.

Saso Aleksovski was fouled twenty-seven yards from goal two minutes later, Graham Hockless putting the free-kick wide. Pablo Cardozo shot over from the edge of the box when he made a good run to get on the end of a pass in the thirty-fifth minute. Hockless picked up a caution late in the half, which finished with the hosts taking a 1-0 lead into the break.

Hockless had a twenty-five yard free-kick deflected for a corner not long after play

resumed. Goutzioulis entered referee Ned Kerkez's book in the fifty-first minute for questioning why Alilovic hadn't been booked when grabbing Zoran Cvetkovski's shirt and spinning him around. Two minutes later Heidelberg had a loud shout for a foul when Bahnsen bundled Tsiorlas over on the corner of the penalty area, with Eric Vassiliadis also being booked for his subsequent arguing with the match official.

On the hour mark a short run saw Hockless twist and turn an opening to shoot from outside the box, the ball flashing narrowly wide. At the other end a minute later a run forward from Sivic earned a corner. In the sixty-third minute a cross from Vassiliadis on the right touchline saw Sivic head an own goal after Webster hesitated after having come off his line to claim the ball.

Another cross from Sivic was cleared for a corner in the sixty-eighth minute. Pablo Cardozo swung the ball in which Marco Kuck headed just wide of the post. Two minutes later a cross from Gasparis deep in the left corner was Tsiorlas volley over the bar. Heidelberg had another chance when a pass put Groenewald through behind the defence on the right, his shot from an angle blocked by Webster with Kuck clearing to safety.

In the seventy-fifth minute disaster struck Sivic as he went to clear down the right touchline on the clubroom wing. Groenewald made a challenge and the contact brought down Sivic, with what would turn out to be

two breaks in his right leg. When Sivic was removed from the pitch on the stretcher, the referee produced a red card for Groenewald.

Substitute Jesse Krncevic blasted the ball over the bar when latching onto the ball after a cleared corner had been headed back into the penalty area in the eighty-first minute.

Three minutes later a long throw by Bahnsen was flicked on by Krncevic, the ball falling to Pablo Cardozo ten yards out, his shot seeing Gavalas get a hand to the ball but unable to keep it out and restore Richmond's lead.

Another flick on by Krncevic led to Goutzioulis volleying wide. To cap an eventful game, Heidelberg produced a dramatic equaliser in the third minute of injury time. A counter attack saw Alilovic move the ball down the right, eventually picking out an unmarked Tsiorlas at the far post who met the ball first time sending it into the net. The final score of 2-2 would not have satisfied either side, but the Eagles would be as concerned with the loss of Sivic as the loss of any points. They next face Coburg United at Knights Stadium, with the Bergers hosting struggling Whittlesea Zebras as the race for Final Six positions intensifies.

Richmond: S.Webster, S.Rexhepi, D.Tsias, S.Sivic (J.Latinopoulos 75'), G.Goutzioulis, R.Cardozo (J.Krncevic 58'), P.Cardozo, M.Catalano, Z.Cvetkovski, N.Bahnsen, M.Kuck.

Goals: Catalano 30' P.Cardozo 84'

Yellow Cards: Goutzioulis 51' Cvetkovski 65'

Red Cards: None

Heidelberg: P.Gavalas, D.Jones, E.Vassiliadis (C.Reid 74'), J.Drossos, T.Ouliaris, G.Hockless, S.Aleksovski (J.Stefanou 76'), M.Gasparis, D.Alilovic, J.Groenewald, M.Tsiorlas (A.Del Monaco 89').

Goals: Own Goal 63' Tsiorlas 89'

Yellow Cards: Ouliaris 54' Hockless 40'

Red Card: Groenewald 75'

Man of the Match: Dennis Alilovic (Heidelberg United)

Venue: Kevin Bartlett Reserve
Crowd: 400

By Mark Boric

Photo by Peter Kakalias



Richmond's Simon Webster scrambles to keep the ball out of the net against Heidelberg.
Inset: Semir Sivic is attended to after breaking his leg on Friday night.

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HAJDUK SPLIT IN AUSTRALIA

SPLIT HELD FIRM

Local talents go for glory in the Motherland

News that Josip Skoko has signed a two-year contract with Hajduk Split, where he spent a very successful period between 1995 and 2000 revives memories of tours to Australia made by the famous Croatian club. The first of these was in 1949 and it was the first visit by an overseas club since the Second World War.

Billed as Yugoslavia at time, the club played 20 matches from July to September. There were four international matches against Australia and a couple against what was called an Australian eleven. The Australians managed one victory by two goals to one at Newcastle on 3 September with Harry Robertson and Gordon 'Bunny' Nunn scoring. The team that day was Norman Conquest in goal, Bill Wilson, Hedley Parkes, Cec Drummond, captain, George Sanders, Bob Lawrie, Allan Johns, Bob Bignall, Harry Robertson, Ron Hughes, and Gordon Nunn. Against them were some of the finest players to come out of Yugoslavia. Vladimir Beara was a superb young keeper. Matosic, Broketa and Vukas played in the 1948 Olympic Games final against Sweden in London. Radovnikovic had amassed 120

caps. The full team on 3 September was Beara, Ljubomir Kokeza, Bozo Broketa, Ivo Mrcic, Ervin Katnic, Ivo Radovnikovic, Dragutin Drvodjelic, Slavko Lustica, Vojko Andrijasevic, captain Frane Matosic and Bernard Vukas. Matosic scored the goal for Hajduk.

Earlier on 6 August, Hajduk beat Australia three-nil at the MCG in front of 12000 fans, but four days later Victoria drew with the visitor also at the MCG. Two Victorians, Angus Drennen and Alex Barr, later the Age football writer, came into the Australian team and both backed up for Victoria. Soccer News marvelled at how young and how light the visiting team was. The average weight of the players was about 11 stone or 70 kilograms, and all but the captain were in their twenties. One request from Hajduk was for permission to replace injured players during a match, since substitutes were not allowed by the rules in those days.

Tactically Hajduk was ahead of Australian football at the time, though Victoria, which had adopted the third back formation under coach Andy Herd, gave a better account of itself. The tour helped to put the game in this country back on the map after the wartime hiatus.

Hajduk Split made another visit in June 1990 when it played against Eddie Thomson's Socceroos in Sydney and at Olympic Park. The Australian squad included Robert Zabica, John Filan, Robbie Hooker, Gary van Egmond, Robbie Wheatley, Charlie Yankos, Andrew Bernal, George Jolevski, Jean-Paul de Marigny, Ernie Tapai, Micky Petersen, Paul Wade, Paul Trimboli, Graham Arnold, Tony Krslovic, Mehmet Durakovic, Kimon Taliadoros and Alex Tobin. Against them was a star-studded line-up including Aljosa Asanovic, Bernard Barnjak, Slaven Bilic, currently coach of Croatia, Dragutin Celic, Darko Drazic, Mili Hadziabdic, Josko Jelacic, Nikola Jerkan, Damir Jurkovic, Grgica Kovac, Zvezdan Pejovic, Ivan Pudar, Ivan Stimac and Goran Vucevic. The coach was Luka Peruzovic.

The match at Parramatta Stadium was Thomson's first game in charge of the Socceroos and a single goal by Paul Trimboli gave the locals victory. The second encounter ended in a two-all draw, with defender Mehmet Durakovic and Charlie Yankos with a penalty scoring for Australia and Hadziabdic and Vucevic for Hajduk. On Sunday, 10 June nearly 12,000 people turned up at Somers Street for a festival

occasion in which the football match was almost incidental. Kovac and Marin Lalic scored for Hajduk and substitute Francis Awaratife pulled a goal back for Melbourne Croatia. The only downside was an ankle injury to Alan Davidson, which saw him stretchered off late in the game.

In 1994, thanks in part to the strong connection with the North Geelong club, Hajduk brought its Under-16 youth team to Australia. Among the party which accompanied the team was Zlatko Papec, who played for Yugoslavia in the final of the Olympic tournament in Melbourne in 1956. He was still convinced that the equalising 'goal' he scored in that game, past the legendary Russian keeper, Lev Yashin, was not offside.

Apart from Josip Skoko, another Geelong star, Steve Horvat, captained Hajduk Split in the 1990s. Goran Talevski also turned out for Hajduk. Skoko is married to Ivana Bajic who comes from Split and they met when he was the skipper of the club. They have two children and another on the way.

Words by Roy Hay

Photos sourced by Roy Hay

H. Parkins
Page 4

SOCCER NEWS

Second Test Match, Saturday, 6th August, 1949, at M.C.G.

AUSTRALIA—Colors, Green and Gold.

J. Herd
J. Jenkins
Lee
Sumner

1—J. Marston
N.S.W.

2—C. Drummond (Capt.)
N.S.W.

K. Lawrie
 3—Lawrie
 Q.L.D.

W. Wilson
 4—Wilson
 N.S.W.

D. Drennen
 5—Drennen
 VIC.

A. Johns
 7—Johns
 N.S.W.

J. McMahon
 9—McMahon
 N.S.W.

S. Sanders
 6—Sanders
 N.S.W.

G. Nunn
 8—Nunn
 Q.L.D.

H. Barr
 10—Barr
 VIC.

Referee—F. Westley

*MANAGER—COACH—
 J. Herd*

Linesmen—J. Baker and J. Hadfield

11—Vukas

9—Vidjak

7—Drvodjelic

10—Matosic (Capt.)

8—Lustica

6—Mrcic

5—Katnic

4—Radovnikovic

3—Broketa

2—Kokeza

1—Beara

YUGOSLAVIA—Colors, White and Blue.

Team line-ups for the Australia versus Hajduk Split match at the MCG on 6 August 1949 with signatures of the Australian players. Source: Soccer News, 6 August 1949.



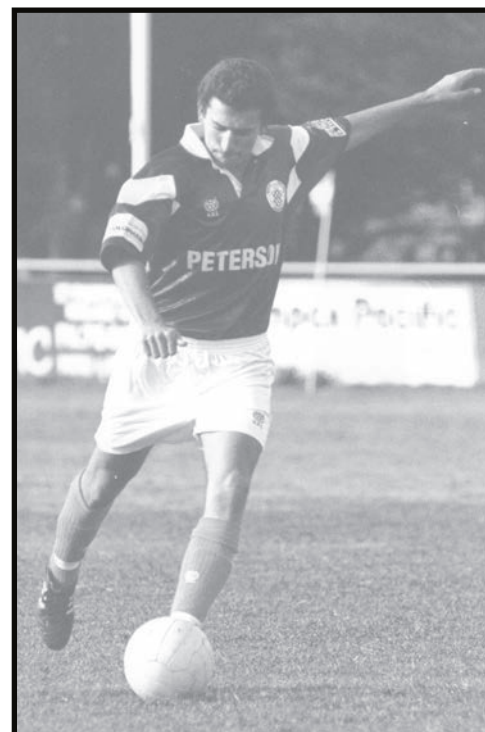
Josip Biskic on the ball, supported by George Hannah and a young Andrew Marth at Somers Street on 10 June 1990. Photo: Roy Hay.



Melbourne Knights with flowers. Theo Selemides, Paul Donnelly, George Hannah, Alan Davidson and Josip Biskic seem a little embarrassed prior to the match with Hajduk Split. Photo: Roy Hay.

Visit www.goalweekly.com for previous Roy Hay's Blast From The Past

goal
Weekly



Josip Skoko playing for North Geelong. Photo: Geelong Advertiser.

WPL HEADS FOR CLIMAX

The WPL is nearing its climax, and with Round 18 now complete, there are just four rounds remaining of the home and away season. Box Hill and Ashburton are now assured of finishing in the top five, and third-placed Sandringham's place looks safe, meaning that the final two spots will be fought out between Heidelberg, Preston and Eltham, with all three sides doing their chances no harm by picking up victories this weekend. Elsewhere there were also wins for Bendigo and Ashburton.

Bendigo Vipers picked up a vital victory at Strathfieldsaye Sports Complex on Saturday afternoon, when it defeated Casey Comets 1-0. In a tightly contested match between two sides occupying consecutive spots of the ladder, it was still all square at half time, with neither side able to break the deadlock. That all changed in the second half, when Emily Leversha found the net, and propelled Bendigo to its fifth victory for the season and its first in five games. With both sides going in to the game on eighteen points, the result lifts Bendigo above Casey on the ladder, into seventh.

Ashburton chalked up its twelfth victory of the season with a 2-0 triumph over GSL at Latrobe City Sports Club on Saturday. Kristin Stensholt and Letizia Sammut were both on target in the first half for the visiting side, and with the second half ending goalless, it was enough for Ashburton to claim the three points. With Box Hill Inter enjoying the bye this weekend, the result enables Ashburton to close the gap at the top of the ladder back to four points, but with only four games remaining, Ashburton will have to win the Round 22 clash between the two and rely on Inter slipping up before then if it is to snaffle the minor premiership and the associated easier path through the

finals. GSL remains eleventh on the ladder, four points adrift of South Melbourne, and looking ever more likely to be relegated.

Preston Lions pulled off the big result of the round, defeating Sandringham 2-1 at BT Connor Reserve on Sunday. It was only the league's third placed team's third defeat of the season, and has significantly boosted the likelihood of Preston holding on to its place in the top five until the end of the season. Goals from Sarah Lovett and Eliza Gleadell produced a 1-1 scoreline at half-time, but Lovett's second goal of the match proved the gamebreaker in the second half, securing the three points for the home side. The result ensures that Preston hangs on to fifth place on the ladder, one points ahead of Eltham, but it has the additional advantage of two games in hand over the sixth placed team. Sandringham remains third on the ladder, but now only three points ahead of fourth-placed Heidelberg, which it faces next weekend. Given that Heidelberg has a significantly better goal difference than Sandringham, it is in serious danger of relinquishing third place.

South Melbourne suffered its third straight defeat, when it went down 3-1 to Eltham North at Albert Park on Sunday. The game was in the balance at half time, with the visiting side enjoying a narrow lead, thanks to a Deanna Niceski strike. However, that lead was doubled seconds after half time, when Enza Barilla found the net, with Nicevski scoring her second from the penalty spot midway through the half. Aimee Benton pulled one back for the home side, but ultimately it proved nothing more than a consolation goal. Eltham remains sixth on the ladder, knocking on the door of the finals, but reliant on one of the teams ahead of it slipping up, as it is still one point behind fifth-placed Preston which has two games in hand. South remains tenth, four

points clear of the relegation zone, although given the uncertainty over the number of teams in the WPL next season, it could yet find itself returning to State League 1 after only one season.

Heidelberg United prevailed in a seven-goal thriller at Olympic Village, seeing off a tenacious Keilor Park side 4-3 on Sunday, and hanging on to its place in the top five in the process. The majority of the action came in the first half, with six goals before the interval. The home side got four of those, with Belinda Pannella bagging a brace, and singles from Chrissy Baxendale and Julia Nicolaci, while Lauren Farrugia scored both goals for the visiting Keilor side. In terms of goals, the second half was less exciting, with Lauren Farrugia enjoying a personal highlight by completing her hat-trick, but unable to secure any points for her team. Heidelberg's tenth victory of the season was an important one, especially given that the other teams below it also won, as it enabled it to maintain fourth place on the ladder. Keilor remains ninth on the ladder, following this, its tenth defeat of the season.

Next weekend, the WPL reaches Round 19, and the action begins on Friday night, when Sandringham takes on Heidelberg United at the Serbian Sports Centre, a new venue for WPL football. At the same time, Box Hill Inter hosts GSL at Wembley Park. On Sunday, Keilor Park and South Melbourne meet at Keilor Park Reserve in a match that could prove crucial for relegation, while at DISC, Eltham North and Bendigo Vipers meet. Ashburton and Preston Lions clash at Ashburton Park in the final match of the round.

By Niki Cook

Photos by John Punshon



Preston's Paula Massouh makes a strong run forward pursued by Sandringham's

WPL ROUND 17 RESULTS

Bendigo Vipers 1 (E Leversha) Casey Comets 0, GSL 0 Ashburton 2 (K Stensholt L Sammut), Preston Lions 2 (S Lovett 2) Sandringham 1 (E Gleadell), South Melbourne 1 (A Benton) Eltham North 3 (D Niceski 2 E Barilla), Heidelberg Utd 4 (B Pannella 2 C Baxendale JL Nicolaci) Keilor Park 3 (L Farrugia 3)

WPL STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Box Hill Inter	17	14	2	1	47	11	44
Ashburton	17	12	4	1	43	15	40
Sandringham	17	10	4	3	24	13	34
Heidelberg Utd	17	10	1	6	47	24	31
Preston Lions	16	10	0	6	20	15	30
Eltham North	18	9	2	7	46	26	29
Bendigo Vipers	17	5	6	6	13	22	21
Casey Comets	18	5	3	10	23	31	18
Keilor Park	18	4	4	10	35	44	16
South Melbourne	17	3	2	12	22	40	11
GSL	15	2	1	12	15	51	7
Eastern Lions	11	0	1	10	4	47	1

UPCOMING FIXTURES

Sandringham v Heidelberg Utd
Serbian Sports Centre
Fri 1 Aug KO 8:30PM

Box Hill Inter v GSL
Wembley Park
Fri 1 Aug KO 8:30PM

Keilor Park WSC v South Melbourne
Keilor Park Reserve
Sun 3 Aug KO 1:00PM

Casey Comets v Bye

Eltham North v Bendigo Vipers
DISC - Pitch 1
Sun 3 Aug KO 3:00PM

Ashburton v Preston Lions
Ashburton Park
Sun 3 Aug KO 3:00PM

*Eastern Lions has withdrawn from the WPL.

WPL RESERVES RESULTS

Bendigo Vipers 1 Casey Comets 2, GSL 0 Ashburton 2, Preston Lions 0 Sandringham 1, South Melbourne 6 Eltham North 1, Heidelberg Utd Keilor Park

WPL RESERVES STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Ashburton	17	17	0	0	80	9	51
Box Hill Inter	17	15	1	1	58	12	46
Sandringham	17	12	1	4	71	20	37
Heidelberg Utd	15	9	3	3	32	20	30
Keilor Park	17	8	4	5	42	23	28
Casey Comets	18	7	2	9	40	42	23
Bendigo Vipers	17	6	1	10	29	34	19
Preston Lions	16	3	4	9	23	38	13
South Melbourne	16	4	1	11	29	61	13
Eltham North	18	2	5	11	15	51	11
GSL	15	1	3	11	11	44	6
Eastern Lions	11	0	1	10	6	82	1



OLYROOS IN BEIJING BATTLE

Australia face uphill task for Games Glory

A foiled terrorist threat will be the least of the Olyroos' worries when they begin their campaign at the 2008 Beijing Olympics in 11 days time.

Graham Arnold's side is scheduled to commence their first two games of the tournament in Shanghai Stadium – an Olympic venue targeted by an unknown international terrorist group.

Local police last week cracked a terrorist cell, via a series of raids, which was planning to attack the stadium, however, the Shanghai Public Security Bureau could not reveal details about any of the information collected.

Despite the raids reducing the threat levels, the possibility of a terror attack still exists. But Graham Arnold's side will disregard the risk of an attack and focus instead on the uphill task of progressing past challenging opponents in Group A.

Drawn against reigning Gold medallist Argentina, along with tricky opposition in the form of Serbia and the Cote d'Ivoire, Australia will face stiff competition in a bid for an Olympic medal.

Argentina will pose the greatest challenge for the Olyroos during the group stage, with the South American side looking to defend their gold medal achievement at the Athens Games in 2004.

With the likes of Boca Juniors' Juan Roman Riquelme, Liverpool's Javier Mascherano and the possibility that Barcelona's Lionel Messi will join the Olympic side despite protestations from his Spanish club, the Albicelestes will be formidable opponents and are likely to retain their crown.

Although he has been named in the Argentine squad for the Games, Messi may miss the tournament because Barcelona expects him to play in the UEFA Champions League qualifiers that commence mid-August.

With the formidable Argentinean side in a class above the Australians, the Olyroos will look to secure positive results from their clashes against European qualifier Serbia and African representative Cote d'Ivoire.

But that will not be an easy feat, with the Ivory Coast possessing talents such as Chelsea's Salomon Kalou and Serbia having experience across the board.

Although it appears that the Olyroos will struggle to impose themselves on the early stages of the tournament, Arnold remains optimistic that his side has the chance of securing Olympic glory.



Argentina's Lionel Messi may miss the Olympics if Barcelona have their way.

Despite the threats on and off the pitch, Arnold is confident that the Olyroos have a chance at securing a medal at the Games due to his squad's ability to play in testing conditions, illustrated by their recent results against the likes of South America's Chile. The ex-Socceroo coach believes that his side will need to play 'Asian-type football' and football that suits the gruelling conditions in China.

But the Olyroos have struggled in their last two friendly matches against Asian opponents in the lead up to the Games, losing narrowly Japan 2-1 and China 1-0.

Arnold has included the services of overage players and national favourites, Archie Thompson, David Carney and Jade North to assist the U23 squad with their international experience.

Arnold hopes that his side will be able to emulate the quarter-final appearance that Australia made at the Athens Olympics four years ago.

The side will face the Korean Republic in their final pre-tournament warm-up match this Thursday, before preparing for kick off against Serbia in their opening match of the Games.

Although Australia's Olympic glory is often secured in the swimming pool or on the athletic track, the Olyroos will be attempting

to achieve a rare Games victory on the green grass of the football pitch.

The 16 team tournament will feature nations qualified from the Asian, African, North American, South American, Oceanian and European regions:

QUALIFIED NATIONS

Host Nation:

-China

AFC Preliminary Competition:

-Australia

-Korea Republic

-Japan

CAF Preliminary Competition:

-Cameroon

-Côte d'Ivoire

-Nigeria

CONCACAF Preliminary Competition:

-Honduras

-USA

2007 South American Youth Championship:

-Brazil

-Argentina



The Groups:

Group A

Cote D'Ivoire, Argentina, Australia, Serbia

Group B

Netherlands, Nigeria, Japan, USA

Group C

China, New Zealand, Brazil, Belgium

Group D

Republic of Korea, Cameroon, Honduras, Italy

OFC Preliminary Competition:

-New Zealand

2007 UEFA U-21 Championship:

-Netherlands

-Serbia

-Belgium

-Italy

By Julius Ross

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SEVEN TURNS SCREWS ON OLYROOS

The Green and Gold Army, Australia's international football supporter's network has been left dumbfounded by the Seven network's announcement of a patch-work quilt coverage of Australia's football matches at the Beijing Games.

"From information received by the network itself, coverage of the Olyroos opening game against Serbia will be delayed and interrupted by an AOC announcement, which is disappointing to say the least," says spokesman John McGauren.

The news gets worse for fans for the all-important second game against reigning gold medallists Argentina who are bringing a full strength team to China.

"We anticipate it to be the country's biggest competition game since the World Cup in Germany and Seven have said that they're cutting away in the last 15 minutes to cover another event - it's just a kick in the guts for fans," explains McGauren.

News has spread fast amongst the 'football nation' about the networks latest sortie against the game.

"There was a cheeky campaign running about a decade ago where Seven was refusing to cover the world game, despite having rights to do so. A bumper sticker campaign carried the message 'Nobody screws soccer like Seven', I reckon a few of the old relics might pop out of the archives over the next fortnight," says McGauren.

"The Socceroos and the A-League have shown that there is a significant television market for the game in this country. Ratings for the new national league have been beyond the wildest dreams of Fox Sports, which makes this affront from Seven particularly puzzling."

The Green and Gold Army, which boasts a membership of more 11,000 in more than 60 countries, will be working with the wider football community to affect a change in policy by the official Olympic network.

"One of two things should happen from their perspective," explains McGauren.

"Either commit to covering the games in their entirety or switch them over to SBS, as has been done with other events at the games, including football."

The 'Army's' campaign to sway Seven's view will unfold over the coming days.



TOWNSVILLE TO ENTER A-LEAGUE FROM 2009/10

Football Federation Australia (FFA) has awarded 'exclusive negotiating status' to the North Queensland Football Club (NQFC) in its bid to have a Townsville based team in the Hyundai A-League competition from 2009-10.

FFA CEO Ben Buckley said he had advised the leader of the NQFC bid, Don Matheson, of the decision.

"The decision follows a competitive process involving two applications for a Hyundai A-League license in Townsville," Buckley said.

"The level of interest in the Townsville region reflects the momentum behind the growth and development of the Hyundai A-League, as well as the strength of the North Queensland region."

Buckley said that NQFC has one month to finalise its submission to FFA.

"Queenslanders have enormous pride and spirit in their sporting teams."

"I hope the potential to have a team of their own in the Hyundai A-League will inspire all North Queenslanders to be part of this exciting opportunity."

"Participation in the Hyundai A-League not only gives North Queensland another presence in a national sporting competition but also the potential to represent the region through Asian competition."

Buckley expressed his appreciation to the other consortium, led by Melbourne businesswoman Milissa Fischer, for her

interest in the Townsville license also.

"We are very encouraged by the level of interest in the Hyundai A-League," Buckley said.

"Since it commenced three years ago, it has had 'cut through' in the busy Australian sporting landscape with average crowds, viewership, membership, media coverage and profitability trending upwards each season."

"The attractiveness of the competition is clearly reflected in the level of interest in our expansion plans."

FFA's view is that the Hyundai A-League has the capacity to be at least a 12 team competition.

"When and where we expand the competition is measured simply by whether it is right for football, right for the existing Hyundai A-League clubs, right for the new clubs and right for the local community," Buckley said.

"In the meantime, we look forward to NQFC entering the competition in 2009."



An artist's impression of the new Soccer City Stadium being built in Townsville

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STARS SHINE AND BLOW TITLE RACE WIDE OPEN

In a situation totally unfathomable just six weeks ago, the Southern Stars have defeated the pacesetters; Sunshine, 1-0 in a tense encounter at Ross Reserve on Saturday.

An extremely evenly matched game saw both teams scoreless at half time and for most of the second half also. Rasim Sezgi became the hero late in the game though as he netted the winner, after receiving a beautiful ball out of defence by Colin Quirk. He won the ball and curved it past the Sunshine players into the path of Sezgi, who beat Martin John for the only goal of the day. The goal sparked jubilant scenes from the home crowd as the Georgies fell for just the third time this season. The Stars continue their march towards the top of the ladder with their fifth consecutive win, while Sunshine have given up ground in first place.

Sunshine's loss has proved to be Dandenong's gain, with the Thunder moving to within a point of top spot after a 2-1 away win over Keilor Park at Keilor Park Reserve on Saturday afternoon. Denys Menjivar opened the scoring for Keilor after Dandenong began sluggishly, before eventually finding their form to be back on level terms after the evergreen Ryan Davidson scored. The Thunder's class continued to outshine their rivals' after the break, with Dandenong only able to convert one of their many opportunities from the second half through Veton Korcarevski. The single goal advantage proved to be enough for the Thunder to claim their ninth victory in twelve weeks, while Keilor Park move to outright bottom spot after their goal difference became worse than Kingston City's.

However, formerly bottom placed Langwarrin made a distinct statement with a 6-2 thumping of FC Clifton Hill at Lawton Park Reserve. Attacking from the first whistle, the home side were rewarded with a 3-0 half time lead, with Caleb Nicholes and Karl Cochrane completing their respective hat-tricks in the second half to complete the rout. With



Sunshine Georgies captain Colin Azzopardi (left) tangles with Sercan Doganay (Southern Stars)

the three points well and truly in the bag, Langwarrin eased off the pressure, as Clifton Hill's George Kotsiris scored two goals to restore some degree of respectability back to his beleaguered side. Langwarrin now have a buffer of three points

and goal difference between themselves and last place, while Clifton Hill have not won for over a month now, with their position coming under threat from Springvale.

The White Eagles shared the spoils yesterday, after a 2-2 draw with St Albans at the Serbian Sports Centre. With weather conditions hampering both sides early, a scoreless first half came as no real surprise. After the break though the goals came, courtesy of slightly improved weather, with Springvale's Fergal O'Colmain and Kruno Stanisic scoring to cancel out the earlier goals of Saints' Ivan Mioc and Anthony Maric. The White Eagles are now only two points behind Clifton Hill, and stay three behind the Saints.

Meanwhile, Bentleigh have moved to within four points of first place after a 1-0 defeat of the ninth-placed Westgate at Ardeer Reserve on Saturday night. Alex Rojas's seventh goal of the season, coming in the first half, was all that was required for the Greens to register their ninth win of the season. Westgate, conversely, have won only one game in their past twelve, to see them languishing in equal ninth place.

By Jeremy O'Neill

Photo by John Punshon

SL1 ROUND 17 RESULTS

Southern Stars 1 (R Sezgi) Sunshine Georgies 0, Langwarrin 6 (C Nicholes 3 K Cochrane 3) FC Clifton Hill 2 (G Kotsiris 2), Keilor Park 1 (D Menjivar) Dandenong Thunder 2 (R Davidson V Korcarevski), Westgate 0 Bentleigh Greens 1 (A Rojas), Springvale White Eagles 2 (F O'Colmain K Stanisic) St Albans Saints 2 (I Mioc)

SL1 STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sunshine Georgies	17	11	3	3	28	11	36
Dandenong Thunder	17	10	5	2	37	16	35
Bentleigh Greens	17	9	5	3	31	20	32
Southern Stars	17	10	2	5	30	24	32
Bulleen Royals	16	6	7	3	32	20	25
St Albans Saints	17	6	3	8	24	29	21
FC Clifton Hill	17	5	5	7	22	35	20
Springvale White Eagles	17	4	6	7	21	26	18
Westgate	17	3	7	7	19	22	16
Langwarrin	17	4	4	9	19	23	16
Kingston City	16	4	1	11	16	34	13
Keilor Park	17	3	4	10	14	33	13

TOP SCORERS

Davidson, (Thunder)	7	games	10	goals
Nicholes, (Langwarrin)	6			9
Becvinovski, (Royals)	6			8
Doganay, (Stars FC)	5			8
Opazo, (Thunder)	6			8

NEXT ROUND

Keilor Park v Kingston City
Keilor Park Reserve
Sat 9 Aug KO 3:00PM

Southern Stars v FC Clifton Hill
Ross Reserve
Sat 9 Aug KO 3:00PM

Westgate v Dandenong Thunder
Ardeer Reserve
Sat 9 Aug KO 3:00PM

Langwarrin v Bulleen Royals
Lawton Park Reserve
Sat 9 Aug KO 3:00PM

St Albans Saints v Sunshine Georgies
Churchill Reserve
Sun 10 Aug KO 3:00PM

Springvale WE v Bentleigh Greens
Serbian Sports Centre
Sun 10 Aug KO 6:15PM

RESERVES RESULTS

Southern Stars 2 Sunshine Georgies 1, Langwarrin 1 FC Clifton Hill 4, Keilor Park 4 (A Chaw M Mazzarino J Quilici V Comisso) Dandenong Thunder 2, Westgate 2 Bentleigh Greens 4, Springvale White Eagles 3 St Albans Saints 3

RESERVES STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Bentleigh Greens	17	14	0	3	57	23	42
Langwarrin	17	12	3	2	49	21	39
Bulleen Royals	16	10	2	4	40	17	32
Keilor Park	17	9	5	3	40	28	32
Southern Stars	17	7	6	4	38	33	27
FC Clifton Hill	17	8	3	6	34	32	27
Sunshine Georgies	17	5	6	6	25	26	21
Westgate	17	5	2	10	22	43	17
Springvale White Eagles	17	3	4	10	25	49	13
St Albans Saints	17	2	6	9	29	42	12
Dandenong Thunder	17	3	2	12	35	54	11
Kingston City	16	2	3	11	24	50	9



FULL NAME: Con Anthopoulos
BIRTHPLACE: Melbourne, Australia
BIRTH DATE: 20/05/1976
HEIGHT: 186cm
WEIGHT: 88kg
MARRIED: Happily for 2 and a half years to Lia
CAR: Ford Territory
OCCUPATION OUTSIDE OF FOOTBALL: Pharmaceutical Specialist Representative
NICKNAME: Kosta
PREVIOUS CLUBS: This may take a while, Essendon Royals, Kingston, Oakleigh, Football Kingz, Wol-longong Wolves, Canberra Cosmos, Carlton, South Melbourne,
REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS: Australian Young Socceroos in 1995
CHILDHOOD FOOTBALL HERO: Gullit, Cruyff and Pele
FAVOURITE O/S PLAYER: Fernando Torres
FAVOURITE FOXTEL CUP PLAYER: Adrian Cagalj and Steve Iosifidis
FAVOURITE FORMER SOCCEROO: Oscar Crino
FAVOURITE CURRENT SOCCEROO: Marco Bresciano
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH AS A PLAYER: Opening Match in 1995 World Youth Cup vs Costa Rica
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH AS A FAN: Brazil vs France in 1986 World Cup Q/Final
MOST MEMORABLE GOAL YOU'VE SCORED: 1st NSL goal with Sth Melbourne vs West Adelaide (left foot strike from outside the box after dribbling a couple of players)
FUNNIEST MOMENT IN FOOTBALL: Preseason at Canberra 2002 where one player, after a late drunken night, fell over during an intense running session and proceeded to fall asleep on the grass.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Not being able to establish myself overseas.
WORST INJURY: Torn ligaments on ankle
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Mark Viduka
FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND: None in particular
SUPERSTITIONS: Don't believe in superstitions
TYPICAL MATCH DAY MEAL: Chicken/Tuna Salad
WHAT ARE YOUR STRENGTHS: Reading the game and ball control
WHAT ARE YOUR WEAKNESSES: My age
FAVOURITE TEAM WHEN GROWING UP: Napoli
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS: Athletics and UFC
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTSPERSON: Pyrros Dimas, Michael Jordan
FAVOURITE FOODS: Everything from Greek to Asian, and quite partial to a good steak.
FAVOURITE ACTOR/ACTRESS: Matt Damon
HOBBIES: Socialising, trivia nights, Xbox, backgammon, educating myself
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT: Chalkidiki, Greece
FAVOURITE NIGHTSPOT: Chase Lounge
IDEAL DATE: My wife of course
FAVOURITE TV SHOWS: Whose line is it anyway, The Soup
FAVOURITE MUSIC: Heavy Metal would be my pick of the bunch
FAVOURITE FILM: 300
LAST SOCCER SHIRT YOU BOUGHT: A Brazilian top for my nephew
FUNNIEST RUMOUR YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT YOURSELF: I'm overweight and slow!!
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: As a child my father, now my wife
BIGGEST DRAG IN SOCCER: Preseason.
FOOTBALL AMBITION: To play competitively for as long as possible and win the Foxtel Cup
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BLUES DASH SOUTH'S FINALS HOPES

Fawkner Stands Up For Retre

Fawkner Blues sent the Blue Army of South Melbourne packing after a great goal from young Sebastian Petralito on the 65 th minute mark to hand the home side a shock 1-0 on Sunday.

The change of coach during the week has given Fawkner a hope of avoiding dropping into the first division after 25 years in the Victorian top division. The last few weeks we have seen in particular the exodus from the team of Patsi Schwalger trialing in Europe, Gallanos in Greece and Napoli in Italy, in addition young midfielder Jose Vasquez has been a recent sensation in weeks is currently injured , the team has been substantially weaken and against the odds the Blues come out fighting and deservedly won the game for their new coach.

The first half we saw south Melbourne take the game up to fawkner if not for young Michael Fiorenza making two outstanding saves. South Ramazzan flew high in the 30 minute to header the ball just over the bar .Only minute later Caldwell nearly open the score again just over the bar with a header. Rocco and Lukmon where in total control of the backline with close defending frustrated the south Melbourne forwards

Late in the first half we saw Rocco and Poutakidis clashed which spurred the blues on for the second half.

The second half the Fawkner



Matchwinner Sebastian Petralito gave Fawkner fans plenty to cheer about

blues took control with Chillico , Principato and Greechan were me-nising through most of the second half. The goal was finally realized by Petralito striking in the 65th minute, leaving South Melbourne the task to chase for the equalizer.

The cool defence lead by Rocco and Anifaloyin Lukmon were extremely solid for most of the second half.

Young Fiorenza was again called to the rescue making some outstanding saves, which kept the Fawkner Blues in the game.

South Melbourne looked for the equalizer in particular substitute Armenian made some dangerous runs but to no avail.

As metioned earlier, Fawkner's Yanni Galanos has signed with Greek side Zakynthos.

The club plays in the Second Division and is coached by former Socceroo Joe Palatsides. Yanni impressed during trials and went with the blessing of Fawkner santo Rizzo who was most supportive of the move despite the clubs current position in the Foxtel Cup.

By Harry Papdopoulos

Photos by John Punshon



Sebastian Petralito is congratulated by team mates after scoring what turned out to be the only goal of the game



Steve O'Dor makes a mid-air clearance to deny Chris Greechan



WESTERN
SUBURBS



PRESTON
LIONS

0 - 1

PRESTON PENALTY PUNISHES SUBURBS

Anastasiou Sinks Suburbs' Hopes

Preston Lions won this round twenty-two Foxtel Cup clash with Western Suburbs by a single goal courtesy of a Les Anastasiou penalty early in the second half, following a foul on Johnny Sapasovski, as he beared down on goal in a very competitive contest at Ralph reserve before a very healthy crowd mostly dominated by visiting Preston Lions fans.

Western Suburbs made a contest of the game and were game in their efforts but, Preston were good value overall for their victory.

The game began scrappily but with Preston generally having the upper hand in the contest, Preston seemed to be playing the more direct attacking soccer and early on in the game Michael Bosevski , raiding from the left back, slot was causing Suburbs many problems. He had two early chances, one of which went narrowly wide, and the other which missed by quite a distance. Preston had the early ascendancy and John Markovski had sent them out in a very attacking frame of mind.

Gradually Suburbs began to get into the game and one of the finds of last season in the VPL, Dimitri Hatzimouratis, began to put himself about and look very dangerous as he attacked down the right side of the Suburbs formation. He first put in a pile of work to win a ball on the by-line which looked a lost cause and then win a corner, before having the best chance of the opening stanza when Serkan

Oskuz played a delightful ball which split the Lions defence in half, and which fell to Hatzimouratis, who bore down on Acevski's goal. Acevski caught out by the speed of the break was really in no man's land and Hatzimouratis put the ball beyond him but it crawled agonisingly past the post and away for a goal kick.

Preston played a very hard style of game and one thing, no matter what the situation, you can always be assured of is a committed performance from their players and they were winning many of the hard balls in the middle of the park. This being said, Suburbs were generally giving as good as they got, who were very competitive without any real moments of brilliance other than the chance carved out by Oskuz and Hatzimouratis.

As the half wore to a close Preston were rather playing a dangerous game with a very square back four and a few times it was the referees assistant's flag which saved them. A few times some of the decisions were a very close run thing with only a step or two in the decision. For the most part the referee and his assistants got most things right and did a very good job on the day. The referee bought the first half to a close and I'd say while both teams would have been reasonably satisfied with a competitive performance Kenny Murphy would have been ruing the miss by Hatzimouratis; the main chance in an otherwise competitive affair which lacked a real spark.

Johnny Markovski is a passionate coach who isn't afraid to tell his players what he expects of them and how he expects them



Suburbs' Johnny Cvetanovski tries to kick some butt against Preton's Nick Schwa. Photo: Steve Starek



Les Anastasiou celebrates converting the winning penalty with John Sapasovski. Photo: Daniel Flis

to execute his game plans. Whatever he said to his charges at the half time interval seemed to work and really sparked them into life as they came out in the second half the hungrier team and the one looking most likely to cause a chance to the score line. The Lions had two early chances which were spurned.

The game turned and was ultimately decided when a long ball from the Preston defence made its way through to Johnny Sapasovski. The diminutive Lions striker honed down on goals and was at the by line looking to cross the ball when a Suburbs defender came across and felled him in a tackle. The referee had no hesitation in pointing to the penalty spot much to the utter disgust of some of the Western Suburbs players who ran and protested loudly that the foul had occurred outside the penalty box. While it was close to the edge of the box I felt the referee got the decision spot on as the foul was just inside the box.

Once Suburbs had had their complaints fall on deaf ears Les Anastasiou stepped up and drilled a low powerful shot to the right of suburbs custodian Marijo Bosnjak which nestled into the corner of the net and much to the delight of John Markovski, the Preston players and the hundreds of travelling Lions fans. The Lions held the lead which they would ultimately hold onto until the conclusion of the game. Preston took over the game for a while after the goal and were looking likely to score another but Suburbs were defending stoutly. Suburbs had their chances but as the case has been this year lacked that final pass which put them in a dangerous position and the game eventually petered out into a single goal victory for the delighted Preston Lions

Next up for Western Suburbs is a home tie which will be of vital importance to the lower half of the table as they host Frank-

ston Pines.

Preston are in action twice this week. Their first game is the rescheduled round seven clash against the Oakleigh Cannons at Jack Edwards Reserve with an 8:30pm kickoff. It should be noted by supporter this game is a pre purchased ticketed game and fans should check the VSF website or contact the clubs to see about the arrangements. Preston's game next weekend sees them hosting high flying Green Gully at their home ground BT Connor reserve with kickoff at 3pm.

Suburbs:
M. Bosnjak, T. Antoniadis, E. Cetkin, J. Cvetanovski, D. Hatzimouratis (I.Khrapko 65'), S. Oskuz, N. Roama, T. Razov, V. Sianidis, A. Tsonis (N.Tolios 82'), E. Karavetis (R.Damianou 65').

Goals: None

Yellow cards: Roama 54', Cvetanovski 90'.

Preston:
L. Acevski, M. Bosevski, J. Sapasovski, M. Schwal, I Arsovski (I.Kolevski 70'), L. Anastasiou, M. Miskas, B. Georgeski (R.Najdovski 85'), R. Dolevski (B.Mickovski 76'), C. Toleski, V. Pittito.

Goals: Anastasiou 54'

Yellow cards: Pittito 39'
Red cards: None

Man of the Match:
Les Anastasiou (Preston Lions)

Venue: Ralph Reserve
Crowd : 600-800

By Reuben Schembri

Photos by Steve Starek

STATE & PROVISIONAL LEAGUES

ROUND SEVENTEEN

Seniors	NORTH WEST 2	Reserves
Altona City 0 Werribee City 4 (M Collins 2 A Barbieri D luele), Moreland City 0 Ballarat Red Devils 0, Williamstown 5 (A Dimitrijevic E Kaya M Maljanek 3) Cairnlea 2 (E Koc 2), Brunswick City 1 (D Cannizzaro) Maribymong Greens 0, North Geelong Warriors 0 Pascoe Vale 0, Altona East Phoenix 0 Thomastown Devils 2 (A Marando DL Cicivelli)	Altona City 1 Werribee City 3, Moreland City 2 Ballarat Red Devils 1, Williamstown 1 Cairnlea 2, Brunswick City 1 Maribymong Greens 0, North Geelong Warriors 4 Pascoe Vale 1, Altona East Phoenix 1 Thomastown Devils 3	
P W D L F A PT	P W D L F A PT	
Pascoe Vale 17 9 8 0 20 7 35	Moreland City 17 15 1 1 51 20 46	
Werribee City 17 9 4 4 27 15 31	Thomastown Devils 17 10 4 3 42 28 34	
North Geelong Warriors 17 8 6 3 26 14 30	Cairnlea 17 10 1 6 41 34 31	
Altona East Phoenix 17 8 5 4 24 13 29	Brunswick City 17 9 2 6 38 32 29	
Brunswick City 17 8 4 5 22 14 28	Altona City 17 7 3 7 33 30 24	
Ballarat Red Devils 17 7 7 3 24 24 28	North Geelong Warriors 17 7 1 9 35 31 22	
Thomastown Devils 17 8 2 7 34 26 26	Ballarat Red Devils 17 7 1 9 33 34 22	
Williamstown 17 7 2 8 25 23 23	Werribee City 17 6 3 8 37 35 21	
Altona City 17 4 4 9 14 30 16	Williamstown 17 5 6 6 26 31 21	
Moreland City 17 2 7 8 16 24 13	Altona East Phoenix 17 5 2 10 23 33 17	
Cairnlea 17 3 4 10 16 31 13	Pascoe Vale 17 5 1 11 28 35 16	
Maribymong Greens 17 1 3 13 11 38 6	Maribymong Greens 17 3 1 13 11 55 10	

Seniors	NORTH WEST 3	Reserves
Lalor Utd 1 (S Iddrisu) Laverton Park 0, Sunbury Utd 1 (V lerardo) Sydenham Park 2 (T Kutlesovski R Kolevski), La Trobe University 2 (C Clark 2) Westvale 2 (DJ Sfetopoulos 2), Lalor 1 (P Romano) Yarraville Glory 1 (A Vatzakis), Geelong 1 (J Ikanovic) Geelong Rangers 2 (J Blackburn 2), Banyule City 0 North Sunshine Eagles 0	Lalor Utd 0 Laverton Park 2, Sunbury Utd 1 Sydenham Park 1, La Trobe University 0 Westvale 1, Lalor Yarraville Glory , Geelong 4 Geelong Rangers 2, Banyule City 6 North Sunshine Eagles 2	
P W D L F A PT	P W D L F A PT	
Geelong Rangers 17 8 6 3 39 26 30	Geelong 17 13 2 2 51 16 41	
Sydenham Park 17 7 7 3 31 19 28	La Trobe University 17 12 3 2 40 13 39	
Geelong 17 7 6 4 37 22 27	Sydenham Park 17 9 5 3 35 25 32	
Lalor 17 7 8 2 23 15 26	Sunbury Utd 17 8 5 4 30 15 29	
Westvale 16 7 4 5 27 24 25	Westvale 16 8 2 6 28 32 26	
Lalor Utd 17 6 6 5 23 24 24	Banyule City 16 7 1 9 30 36 22	
Yarraville Glory 17 5 7 5 19 23 22	Lalor 16 7 2 7 35 24 20	
Banyule City 17 6 4 7 15 22 22	North Sunshine Eagles 17 5 4 8 34 38 19	
North Sunshine Eagles 17 5 5 7 26 29 20	Yarraville Glory 16 5 2 9 21 54 17	
La Trobe University 17 4 7 6 20 25 19	Lalor Utd 17 4 1 12 18 32 13	
Sunbury Utd 17 3 5 9 20 32 14	Geelong Rangers 17 3 3 11 26 41 12	
Laverton Park 16 2 3 11 15 34 9	Laverton Park 16 3 2 11 17 39 11	

Seniors	PROVI 1 NORTH WEST	Reserves
Elwood City 0 Melbourne University Rangers 3 (A Griffith DJ Greenwood A Fjeld), Avondale Heights 1 (G Di Marco) Glenroy 2 (S Saric), Corio 0 Hume Utd 8 (E Karasungur J Barrientos 3 K Kalayci WJ Sismanis 3), Melbourne City 1 (H Nunez) Plenty Valley Lions 3 (D Stojanovski C Kirkopoulos L Lazarov), Western Eagles 1 (J Strycharski) Whittlesea Utd 2 (U Yildiz 2), South Yarra 4 (S Christov S Crossan 2) Melbourne Tornado 0	Elwood City 1 Melbourne University Rangers 3, Avondale Heights 3 Glenroy 1, Corio 4 Hume Utd 2, Melbourne City 1 Plenty Valley Lions 2, Western Eagles 1 Whittlesea Utd 0, South Yarra 3 Melbourne Tornado 0	
P W D L F A PT	P W D L F A PT	
Hume Utd 17 11 5 1 43 15 38	Melbourne Uni Rangers 17 14 2 1 48 8 44	
Melbourne Uni Rangers 17 10 1 6 26 23 31	South Yarra 17 13 2 2 39 16 41	
Glenroy 17 10 3 4 34 22 30	Plenty Valley Lions 16 9 1 6 25 21 28	
Whittlesea Utd 17 8 5 4 28 19 29	Avondale Heights 16 8 3 5 34 25 27	
Corio 17 8 3 6 18 24 27	Hume Utd 17 6 6 5 34 29 24	
Western Eagles 17 6 5 6 29 27 23	Corio 17 6 3 8 25 38 21	
South Yarra 17 6 4 7 23 17 22	Glenroy 17 7 2 8 27 30 20	
Elwood City 17 6 4 7 29 30 22	Western Eagles 17 6 1 10 18 27 19	
Plenty Valley Lions 16 5 2 9 24 31 17	Elwood City 17 5 2 10 24 35 17	
Melbourne City 17 4 5 8 23 30 17	Whittlesea Utd 17 5 2 10 20 31 17	
Avondale Heights 16 3 5 8 18 24 14	Melbourne City 17 4 4 9 18 26 16	
Melbourne Tornado 17 2 2 13 19 52 8	Melbourne Tornado 17 4 0 13 20 46 12	

Seniors	PROVI 2 NORTH WEST	Reserves
Keon Park 3 (C Tsandefskis 2 A Gamadid) West Preston 4 (A Freeman T Emtsis PP Haloulous), Collingwood City 0 North City Lions 0, Moreland Utd 2 (H Haroon A Toma) Hoppers Crossing 3 (NB Mladichek 3), Melton 0 Essendon Utd 1 (C Arvanitakis), Brimbank City 0 Bell Park 10 (M Gstalter 4 E Lawrence SJ Kolar D Nelson 2), Darebin Utd 1 (K Aktepe) Northern Falcons 6 (A Matalone AM Del Tondo M Vizzini A Le Page 2 A Kablar)	Keon Park 5 West Preston 2, Collingwood City 0 North City Lions 3, Moreland Utd 2 Hoppers Crossing 0, Melton 0 Essendon Utd 3, Brimbank City 0 Bell Park 1, Darebin Utd 0 Northern Falcons 8	
P W D L F A PT	P W D L F A PT	
Essendon Utd 16 11 4 1 32 8 37	North City Lions 17 13 2 2 39 11 41	
North City Lions 17 11 4 2 42 20 37	Essendon Utd 16 10 4 2 41 17 34	
Collingwood City 17 9 4 4 24 18 31	Collingwood City 17 8 5 4 31 21 29	
West Preston 17 9 2 6 35 29 29	Northern Falcons 16 8 3 5 40 26 27	
Moreland Utd 17 8 4 5 33 24 28	Keon Park 17 6 6 5 30 23 24	
Northern Falcons 16 7 5 4 31 14 26	Melton 17 6 4 7 24 30 22	
Hoppers Crossing 16 6 4 6 19 24 22	Moreland Utd 17 6 4 7 30 42 22	
Bell Park 17 5 3 9 24 30 18	Hoppers Crossing 16 6 2 8 22 27 20	
Keon Park 17 4 5 8 20 25 17	Bell Park 17 6 1 10 31 33 19	
Darebin Utd 17 5 2 10 20 32 17	West Preston 16 4 4 8 30 36 16	
Melton 17 5 1 11 25 35 16	Brimbank City 15 3 3 9 18 42 12	
Brimbank City 16 0 2 14 13 59 2	Darebin Utd 17 3 2 12 23 51 11	

Seniors	PROVI 3 NORTH WEST	Reserves
Northern Utd 3 (M Mikhael S Dodevski 2) Mill Park 0, Watsonia Heights 3 (A Seeley J Adamo E Santone) Brimbank 1, Ascot Vale 2 (A Santos R Lopez) Epping City 2 (C Spaliaras N Filin), Youth Utd 2 (SA Cioek 2) Moreland Wolves 2, Dallas Eagles 0 Surf Coast 1 (MB Jablonski), Brunswick Zebras Bundoora Utd	Northern Utd 0 Mill Park 0, Watsonia Heights 3 Brimbank 2, Ascot Vale 0 Epping City 4, Youth Utd 5 Moreland Wolves 0, Dallas Eagles 3 Surf Coast 1, Brunswick Zebras 0 Bundoora Utd 2	
P W D L F A PT	P W D L F A PT	
Epping City 17 11 3 3 41 15 36	Epping City 17 16 1 0 69 7 49	
Watsonia Heights 16 11 2 3 45 20 35	Brimbank 17 12 1 4 44 22 37	
Bundoora Utd 16 9 4 3 28 17 31	Watsonia Heights 16 11 3 2 46 18 36	
Youth Utd 16 9 2 5 32 27 29	Brunswick Zebras 17 9 4 4 39 25 31	
Brimbank 17 8 4 5 45 28 28	Youth Utd 16 8 1 7 46 33 25	
Brunswick Zebras 16 6 5 5 33 29 23	Surf Coast 17 6 2 9 41 47 20	
Surf Coast 17 6 5 6 22 26 23	Moreland Wolves 17 6 1 10 30 48 19	
Mill Park 17 5 4 8 18 35 19	Ascot Vale 17 5 3 9 28 33 18	
Ascot Vale 17 4 6 7 20 25 18	Bundoora Utd 17 5 3 9 33 41 18	
Moreland Wolves 17 3 5 9 28 44 14	Northern Utd 17 4 3 10 25 53 15	
Northern Utd 17 3 4 10 16 39 13	Dallas Eagles 17 4 3 10 27 56 12	
Dallas Eagles 17 1 4 12 11 34 4	Mill Park 17 1 3 13 9 54 6	

Seniors	SOUTH EAST 2	Reserves
Port Melbourne 2 (D Jovanovski J Hiolos) Chelsea 3 (D Radosevic S Topalovic J Benli), Doncaster Rovers 4 (M Santaro S Pitruzzello RH Dias Own Goal) Peninsula Strikers 0, South Springvale 2 (I Diniotis AT Georgoulis) Stonnington City 1 (P Madondo), Waverley Wanderers 1 (PT Papadopoulos) Casey Comets 2 (PM Presti C Bichok), Knox City 2 (D Veljovic 2) Northcote City 0, Eastern Lions 0 Diamond Valley Utd 2 (O Simsek D Pistininzi)	Port Melbourne 3 Chelsea 3, Doncaster Rovers 1 Peninsula Strikers 0, South Springvale 1 Stonnington City 1, Waverley Wanderers 1 Casey Comets 1, Knox City 1 Northcote City 1, Eastern Lions 1 Diamond Valley Utd 0	
P W D L F A PT	P W D L F A PT	
Northcote City 17 12 1 4 39 19 37	Knox City 17 10 5 2 32 16 35	
Doncaster Rovers 17 9 6 2 35 18 33	Doncaster Rovers 17 10 3 4 34 18 33	
Knox City 17 10 2 5 33 18 32	Peninsula Strikers 17 10 2 5 31 16 32	
Stonnington City 17 9 2 6 36 27 29	Eastern Lions 16 9 1 6 32 25 28	
Chelsea 17 9 2 6 27 24 29	Casey Comets 17 6 6 5 34 30 24	
South Springvale 17 7 4 6 24 22 25	Waverley Wanderers 17 6 5 6 30 29 23	
Casey Comets 17 7 4 6 23 23 25	Chelsea 17 6 4 7 30 31 22	
Diamond Valley Utd 17 7 4 6 26 31 25	Northcote City 17 5 6 6 33 32 21	
Eastern Lions 17 6 2 9 17 24 20	South Springvale 17 6 3 8 18 23 21	
Port Melbourne 17 4 4 9 19 33 16	Port Melbourne 17 4 5 8 24 39 17	
Peninsula Strikers 17 2 3 12 15 32 9	Stonnington City 17 4 3 10 22 40 15	
Waverley Wanderers 17 2 2 13 13 36 8	Diamond Valley Utd 16 2 3 11 14 35 9	

Seniors	SOUTH EAST 3	Reserves
Sandringham City 3 (T Papadopoulos O Harel PA McCluskey) Heatherton Utd 0, Morwell Pegasus 1 Springvale City 2, Croydon City Arrows 0 Berwick City 1 (S MacKie), Boroondara Eagles 2 (N(Alexopoulos 2) Southern Suburbs 1 (AAnagnostopoulos), Brandon Park 0 Doveton 0	Sandringham City 5 Heatherton Utd 0, Morwell Pegasus 3 Springvale City 0, Croydon City Arrows 2 Berwick City 2, Boroondara Eagles 2 Southern Suburbs 1, Brandon Park 3 Doveton 3	
P W D L F A PT	P W D L F A PT	
Morwell Pegasus 17 11 3 3 37 19 36	Sandringham City 17 14 1 2 43 13 43	
Heatherton Utd 17 9 3 5 32 26 30	Boroondara Eagles 17 12 2 3 30 13 38	
Springvale City 17 9 2 6 22 23 29	Croydon City Arrows 17 9 3 5 35 15 30	
Berwick City 17 6 5 6 27 26 23	Berwick City 17 8 5 4 41 28 29	
Boroondara Eagles 17 7 2 8 25 24 23	Endeavour Utd 16 9 0 7 31 26 27	
Southern Suburbs 17 7 2 8 25 28 23	Brandon Park 17 7 3 7 34 29 24	
Croydon City Arrows 17 6 4 7 22 18 22	North Caulfield 16 7 2 7 33 23 23	
Brandon Park 17 5 6 6 22 19 21	Southern Suburbs 17 7 2 8 28 30 23	
North Caulfield 16 4 8 4 21 24 20	Morwell Pegasus 17 6 2 9 30 27 20	
Doveton 17 5 5 7 28 39 20	Doveton 17 5 5 7 21 24 20	
Sandringham City 17 5 4 8 28 29 19	Heatherton Utd 17 3 1 13 12 51 10	
Endeavour Utd 16 2 6 8 18 32 12	Springvale City 17 1 0 16 12 71 3	

Seniors	PROVI 1 SOUTH EAST	Reserves
Nunawading City 2 (AM Adem 2) Warragul Utd 0, Monash University 2 (N Mallios LP Johnson) Scotch Old Boys 1 (TI Murray), Fitzroy City 3 (S Peutherer D Meade 2) Rowville Eagles 0, Monbulk 2 (N Van Egmond Q Wells) Mooroolbark 2 (T Hardcastle M Cauteruccio), Noble Park Utd 11 (M Durand 3 C Durand Z Secl 4 D Djuric T Racunica 2) White Star Dandenong 3 (E Tepedelenioglu 2 E Sepetci), Old Melburnians 3 (A Carmody J Pearce T Wu) Ashburton 3 (B Jackson Y Harper S Poutakidis)	Nunawading City 4 Warragul Utd 2, Monash University 4 Scotch Old Boys 0, Fitzroy City 10 Rowville Eagles 2, Monbulk 7 Mooroolbark 0, Noble Park Utd 5 White Star Dandenong 0, Old Melburnians 1 Ashburton 0	
P W D L F A PT	P W D L F A PT	
Noble Park Utd 17 13 2 2 66 24 41	Monash University 16 11 2 3 44 17 35	
Nunawading City 17 11 4 2 45 14 37	Nunawading City 17 10 4 3 43 21 34	
Monbulk 17 10 4 3 44 17 34	Fitzroy City 17 9 6 2 50 26 33	
Fitzroy City 17 10 3 4 55 25 33	Old Melburnians 17 9 3 5 29 23 30	
Old Melburnians 17 8 5 4 38 24 29	Ashburton 17 9 2 6 29 25 29	
Scotch Old Boys 17 8 2 7 25 24 26	Monbulk 17 8 4 5 31 19 28	
Mooroolbark 17 6 4 7 34 41 22	Scotch Old Boys 17 6 6 5 29 24 24	
Ashburton 17 6 1 10 30 39 19	Warragul Utd 17 6 4 7 30 35 22	
Monash University 16 5 3 8 23 33 18	Mooroolbark 17 4 4 9 23 34 16	
Warragul Utd 17 3 5 9 17 32 14	Noble Park Utd 17 4 3 10 35 38 15	
Rowville Eagles 16 3 1 12 18 53 10	Rowville Eagles 16 3 2 11 21 56 11	
White Star Dandenong 17 0 2 15 13 82 2	White Star Dandenong 17 1 2 14 10 56 5	

Seniors	PROVI 2 SOUTH EAST	Reserves
Caulfield Utd 1 (O Tufan) Lyndale Utd 2 (S Mara G Murray), Keysborough 1 (F L'Eveille) Riversdale 1 (D Begg), Carrum Utd 0 Whitehorse Utd 4 (K Tavrou 3 T Little), Old Brighton Grammarians 2 (D Hall CJ Cook) Old Trinity Grammarians 0, Dandenong Sparrows 5 (T Ithier 3 DE Schulberg HV Araujo) Berwick Kings 1 (D Blanusa), Mornington 2 (TA Schneider BR Skelly) Old Camberwell Grammar 6 (P Margin 2 P Spyropoulos 2 D Hegazi GG Efe)	Caulfield Utd 3 Lyndale Utd 2, Keysborough 0 Riversdale 1, Carrum Utd 1 Whitehorse Utd 3, Old Brighton Grammarians 4 Old Trinity Grammarians 2, Dandenong Sparrows 10 Berwick Kings 0, Mornington 2 Old Camberwell Grammar 0	
P W D L F A PT	P W D L F A PT	
Old Camberwell Grammar 17 9 5 3 33 22 32	Riversdale 17 15 1 1 53 18 46	
Mornington 17 9 4 4 38 25 31	Caulfield Utd 17 12 0 5 45 25 36	
Lyndale Utd 17 10 1 6 36 30 31	Old Camberwell Grammar 17 10 3 4 40 16 33	
Riversdale 16 8 3 5 45 29 27	Old Brighton Grammarians 17 10 0 7 40 33 30	
Old Brighton Grammarians 17 8 3 6 34 36 27	Mornington 17 7 3 7 35 36 24	
Whitehorse Utd 17 7 4 6 27 17 25	Lyndale Utd 17 7 3 7 33 34 24	
Dandenong Sparrows 17 7 3 7 29 31 24	Whitehorse Utd 17 7 2 8 25 22 23	
Caulfield Utd 17 6 2 9 27 35 20	Old Trinity Grammarians 17 6 4 7 29 34 22	
Berwick Kings 17 6 1 10 16 33 19	Keysborough 17 5 3 9 24 31 18	
Keysborough 17 4 5 8 25 29 17	Dandenong Sparrows 17 6 0 11 35 45 18	
Carrum Utd 16 4 4 8 21 27 16	Carrum Utd 17 5 3 9 30 45 18	
Old Trinity Grammarians 17 4 3 10 20 37 15	Berwick Kings 17 1 0 16 25 75 3	

Seniors	PROVI 3 SOUTH EAST	Reserves
Beaumaris 2 (D Jackson 2) Seaford Utd 0, Noble Park 2 (M Lemos K Price) Dandenong City 2 (H Andrews K Hasanazada), Endeavour Hills 4 (D Marie 2 N Robinson) Brighton 3 (A Greatorex 2 C Dongalis), Bayside Argonauts 3 (G Triantafyllidis B Whiting K Caimakamis) Uni. of Melbourne 0, Old Carey 3 (J Gullaci M Hargitay RP Donovan) Dandenong Warriors 2 (GE Quaremba), Keilor Wolves 2 (D Panev F Ivanco) Eltham North 2 (N Mirecki LA Robertson)	Beaumaris 2 Seaford Utd 0, Noble Park 1 Dandenong City 4, Endeavour Hills 3 Brighton 2, Bayside Argonauts 4 Uni. of Melbourne 1, Old Carey 2 Dandenong Warriors 1, Keilor Wolves 1 Eltham North 3	
P W D L F A PT	P W D L F A PT	
Old Carey 17 11 3 3 34 22 36	Old Carey 17 15 0 2 55 18 45	
Beaumaris 17 11 2 4 38 23 35	Bayside Argonauts 16 13 1 2 51 22 40	
Endeavour Hills 17 10 1 6 41 36 31	Beaumaris 16 11 2 3 55 26 35	
Dandenong City 17 9 3 5 41 31 30	Dandenong Warriors 17 10 1 6 50 30 31	
Bayside Argonauts 17 9 3 5 32 23 30	Seaford Utd 17 7 6 4 53 36 27	
Keilor Wolves 17 8 4 5 37 31 28	Dandenong City 17 7 0 10 35 48 21	
Seaford Utd 17 9 1 7 30 25 28	Uni. of Melbourne 17 6 2 9 34 38 20	
Noble Park 17 6 4 7 33 35 19	Brighton 17 6 1 10 31 31 19	
Dandenong Warriors 17 5 2 10 37 43 17	Endeavour Hills 17 5 1 11 30 55 16	
Uni. of Melbourne 17 4 1 12 17 30 13	Keilor Wolves 17 4 3 10 27 41 15	
Brighton 17 4 0 13 34 52 12	Eltham North 17 4 0 13 20 58 12	
Eltham North 17 2 4 11 28 51 10	Noble Park 17 3 3 11 34 72 9	

ROUND EIGHTEEN FIXTURES

All matches to be played on Saturday 2nd August with 3pm KO unless otherwise stated.

STATE NW 2
Thomastown Devils v North Geelong Warriors
Epping Soccer Stadium Fri 1 Aug 08 8:15PM
Williamstown v Altona East Phoenix
JT Gray Reserve
Pascoe Vale v Brunswick City
Hosken Reserve
Maribymong Greens v Moreland City
Skins Reserve
Ballarat Red Devils v Altona City
Trekardo Park
Cairnlea v Werribee City
Cairnlea Park

STATE SE 2
Doncaster Rovers v Eastern Lions
Anderson Park Fri 1 Aug 08 8:30PM
Diamond Valley Utd v Knox City
Partington Flats
Northcote City v Waverley Wanderers
John Cain Memorial Park
Casey Comets v Port Melbourne
Comets Stadium
Chelsea v South Springvale
HD Thomas Reserve
Peninsula Strikers v Stonnington City
Centenary Park

STATE NW 3
La Trobe University v Banyule City
Latrobe Uni Lower Playing Fld
North Sunshine Eagles v Geelong
Larissa Reserve
Geelong Rangers v Lalor
Myers Reserve
Yarraville Glory v Sunbury Utd
McIvor Reserve
Sydenham Park v Lalor Utd
Keilor Lodge Reserve
Westvale v Laverton Park
McKechnie Reserve

STATE SE 3
Morwell Pegasus v Brandon Park
Ronald Reserve
Doveton v Boroondara Eagles
Waratah Reserve
Southern Suburbs v Croydon City Arrows
Keeley Park
Berwick City v Sandringham City
Jack Thomas Reserve
Heatherton Utd v Endeavour Utd
Bosnia & Herzegovina Centre
Springvale City v North Caulfield
Ross Reserve Sun 3 Aug 08 3:00PM

PROVI NW 1
Corio v South Yarra
Hume Reserve
Melbourne Tornado v Western Eagles
Newmarket Reserve
Whittlesea Utd v Melbourne City
Thomas Street Recreation Res.
Plenty Valley Lions v Avondale Heights
Bundoora Park Pavilion
Glenroy v Elwood City
Strathnaver Reserve
Hume Utd v Melbourne University Rangers
Laura Douglas Reserve

PROVI SE 1
Fitzroy City v Old Melburnians
Fairfield Park
Ashburton v Noble Park Utd
Ashburton Park
White Star Dandenong v Monbulk
Greaves Reserve
Mooroolbark v Monash University
Esther Park Reserve
Scotch Old Boys v Nunawading City
H.A. Smith Reserve
Rowville Eagles v Warragul Utd
Park Ridge Reserve

PROVI NW 2
Moreland Utd v Darebin Utd
Moomba Park Reserve
Northern Falcons v Brimbank City
Hayes Park
Bell Park v Melton
Bell Park Sports Club
Essendon Utd v Collingwood City
Aberfeldie Park
North City Lions v Keon Park
Wallace Reserve
Hoppers Crossing v West Preston
Grange Reserve

PROVI SE 2
Carrum Utd v Mornington
Italo-Australian Club
Old Camberwell Gram v Dandenong Sparrows
Deepdene Park
Berwick Kings v Old Brighton Grammarians
Betula Park
Old Trinity Grammarians v Keysborough
Trinity Sports Ground
Riversdale v Caulfield Utd
Frog Hollow Reserve
Whitehorse Utd v Lyndale Utd
Terrara Park

PROVI NW 3
Ascot Vale v Brunswick Zebras
Fairbairn Park
Dallas Eagles v Bundoora Utd
Tullamarine Reserve
Surf Coast v Youth Utd
Quay Reserve
Moreland Wolves v Watsonia Heights
Rayner Reserve
Brimbank v Northern Utd
Italo-Australian Social Club
Epping City v Mill Park
Casa D'Abruzzo Club

PROVI SE 3
Endeavour Hills v Keilor Wolves
Power Reserve
Eltham North v Old Carey
Eltham North Reserve
Dandenong Warriors v Bayside Argonauts
Lois Twohig Reserve
Uni. of Melbourne v Noble Park
Princes Park Oval #2
Dandenong City v Beaumaris
Frank Holohan Soccer Reserve
Brighton v Seaford Utd
Dendy Park

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STARS OUTSHINE
GEORGIES

Southern Stars 1
Sunshine Georgies 0

Southern Stars won their fifth match in a row, to keep alive their challenge for promotion when they defeated State League Division One leader Sunshine Georgies 1-0 at home on Saturday. The Stars kept numbers behind the ball in the first half against the league frontrunner, playing with a lone striker in a system that had reaped rewards for Dean Hennessy’s team in recent weeks. The visitors had difficulty playing through a congested midfield in the first half and although they took the attacking initiative, they threatened only through set pieces. The Stars on the other hand relied on quick counter attacks. Best chances of the half for each team came just before the break when Georgies’ midfielder Paul Wilson fired a shot at goal from close range only for Stars’ keeper Michael Sivulja to make an excellent one handed save. A swift break down the other end gave Stars midfielder Thierry Boi an opportunity to convert a Sercan Doganay cutback. However he couldn’t connect cleanly.

Boi turned provider within seconds after the break when his first time pass put Doganay in behind the Sunshine defence only for keeper Martin Johns to produce a fine save at his near post. The Stars looked more positive in the second half even after losing Doganay to injury. Lady Luck was also shining on the home team when a header from Georgies’ striker Peter Koutsoupas rattled the crossbar. When Sunshine fullback Johnny Black received his marching orders for a late tackle in the 69th minute the Stars took full advantage just five minutes later when substitute striker Rasim Sezgi latched onto a long Colin Quirk pass to outpace his opponent and an advancing Georgies’ keeper. He slotted the ball into an empty net for a 75th minute winner sparking jubilant celebration amongst the home fans. Stars coach Dean Hennessy said after the game, “ We got beat 4-0 down there (at Sunshine) earlier in the season. But today was a great performance. It showed how much we’ve come along. We’ve always beaten the lower sides. This is the first top four side we’ve beaten all season. What I said to the boys all week is, ‘If we can win this one you’ll have the belief you can beat the other top four teams in the run home.’ We’re only four points from the top and there’s just five rounds to play. Every week is a big game. It’ll be just like a cup final.”



State League Div 1
By George Stogiannou

Stars Savour the Victory: From left to right, Adam Rudzki, Cihan Kara, Michael Sivulja and Berkan Sakaci.
Photo: George Stogiannou

BRUNSWICK
SEAL GREENS’
FATE

Brunswick City 1
Maribyrniong Greens 0

Brunswick City all but sent cellar dwellers Maribyrniong back down to State League 3NW by beating them in round 17 on Saturday. Brunswick ,smarting after their great upset win the previous week to Ballarat, was full of confidence and quickly gained the ascendancy in the first half. The only shining lights for the visitors were their midfield combination of Emkic and Vasilevski who tried to create some chances

but were thwarted by Brunswick’s well organised defensive unit. In Brunswick’s front third debutant, David Cannizzaro was creating some headaches for the “Greens” back four and had it not been for the brilliance of Akrapovic in goal the young Brunswick striker would have opened the scoring early in the first half. The poor surface of the pitch was not conducive to free flowing football and it was hard to see where a goal could be created. Poor control and distribution made for less than desirable spectacle. At the main break the 0-0 score line was indicative of the few chances created causing Ciantar some concern in the rooms. The second half also began slowly but when Aki Gonullu broke free down the left in the 61’ the heightened sense of anticipation turned to elation for the home team. As he has down consistently in the past month Gonullu whipped in a hard low

cross to the front post where Canizzaro was on hand to flick the ball beyond Akrapovic who was second to the contest. Brunswick continued to maintain the pressure but was continually stopped in the front third by opposition fouling. Gorceviski who by his high standards had a quiet day failed to hit the target on numerous occasions and as a result did not make the visitors pay for their lack of defensive discipline. The 1-0 result has moved Brunswick up one place as they prepare to take on league leaders Pascoe Vale at Hosken Reserve next Saturday. On paper it may appear that Pascoe Vale should easily dictate terms but the local derby rivalry associated with both these teams does not take ladder position into consideration. A healthy crowd is expected to witness what should be a close game. The reserve team won 1-0 with Tsalkos

scoring the winning goal.
**Score: Brunswick City 1
Maribyrniong Greens 0**
Goalscorers: Canizzaro (Brunswick)

Best: Jackson, Danos, Gonullu, Canizzaro

Line up: Dimitropoulos, Danos, Jackson, J.Vouloumanos, Gorceviski, Karas, Gonullu (Papliakakis 89’), C.Vouloumanos (Tsaboukas 69’), Canizzaro (88’ Dokolas) Athanasopoulos

State League Div 1
By Lou Simopoulos

KNOX ROCKS
LEAGUE LEADERS

Knox City 2
Northcote City 0
(Half-time 0-0)

The race for the Division Two South East title is alive and well. Knox City beat the league leaders, Northcote City, who slipped to their third straight loss, by two goals to nil on Saturday. An eleven point gap is now down to four points and both Doncaster Rovers and Knox City are now breathing down Northcote’s neck with five games to go. Much of the drama surrounding this match took place during the week with the Football Federation doing contortions about whether the league’s leading scorer, Trent Rixon was or was not suspended. In the end, he was suspended and Northcote had its most potent weapon taken away. Knox City had a point to prove after its poor performance in the away fixture at Northcote and they proved it in some

style, with a dominant display in which all players made contributions. Apart from one goalmouth scramble, the Knox goal was never in danger and the home side played its best football of the season. The first half was played very much in the middle third of the park. Apart from Theodoridis having to tip a dangerous cross from Hingert over the crossbar for a corner, neither keeper was troubled. However, Knox had set its stall out and had controlled possession, leaving Northcote to rely on counter attacks against a resolute Knox defence in which the back three of Edgar, Martinez and Nick Veljovic were outstanding. The second half saw Knox raise the tempo from the start. Martinez intercepted the ball in his own half in the first minute and after three exchanges of passes hit the top of the woodwork with his shot. Craig Kerr was again masterful for Knox in midfield as he patrolled the middle of the park. Jack Hingert was also proving to be a handful on the wing with his pace and close control.

The game exploded into life on the hour mark. First Edgar had to make a timely interception at the back post as Northcote broke down the right flank. Two minutes later, Hingert wriggled his way past two players to the bye-line and his cross gave Daniel Veljovic a simple tap in to give Knox the lead. A minute later, Northcote were left wondering how they had not equalised. Archimandritis got free on the left and he played the ball across the face of goal. Jorgensen got a hand to the cross but the ball spilled loose and Northcote forwards had two or three attempts to drive the ball home only for a body to get in the way until finally Knox was able to clear its lines. The ball went down to the other end and Hoogendyk did very well to win the ball as Northcote was coming out of defence. He then got to the bye-line and his cross was again met by Daniel Veljovic who grabbed his second in very similar circumstances. Veljovic almost got his hat-trick only a couple of minutes later when his shot from a Hingert cross went just past the post. Northcote’s coach. Peter Tsolakis

rang the changes but by now they were fighting a losing battle and only a despairing header from Papadopoulos denied Knox a third as time wound down. Knox City and Northcote City Reserves played out a 1-1 draw in the opening match. The point keeps Knox two points clear at the top of their ladder.
Knox City: M. Jorgensen, A. Edgar, N. Veljovic, Z. Martinez, C. Kerr, K. Suat (P. Veljovic – 92nd), M. Hoogendyk, J. Hingert, A. Asimakidis (C. Jones – 61st), D. Veljovic (P. Nedza – 90th), A. Saunders. Sub not used –K. McEvoy.

Northcote City: C. Theodoridis, N. Georgadopoulos (T. Papadopoulos – 72nd), L. Paliza, H. Kingigopoulos, T. Tsoulis (D. Moshis – 66th), A. Jankovski, E. Soares, J. Archimandritis (M. Rosano – 80th), S. Groom, J. Triantopoulos. Subs not used – C. Fotiadis, J. Lazaris.

State League SE 2
By Bruce Darnell



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U23s Put To Samurai Sword

The Qantas Under 23s have narrowly been defeated by the Japanese Under 23 National Team in Kobe last Thursday. With the match looking destined to end in a 1-all draw, a deflected goal from substitute Shinji Okazaki in the 89th minute gave the home team the victory.

As stated in the lead-up to the match, Qantas Under 23s coach Graham Arnold included over-age players Jade North and Archie Thompson in his starting line-up along with goal keeper Adam Federici who made his debut for the Qantas Under 23s. Arnold also gave starts to striker Nikita Rukavytsya and midfielders Stuart Musialik and Billy Celeski, resting Adrian Leijer James Troisi, Neil Kilkenny, Mark Bridge, Ruben Zadkovich and Tando Velaphi who were all in the starting eleven for the match against China last Sunday.

After an even opening half hour, the Qantas Under 23s took the lead in the 34th minute when Nikita Rukavytsya took on his two defenders and was able to slip a square ball to an unmarked Archie Thompson in the middle of the field. Thompson received the ball at speed and took the ball into the box to calmly slide his shot underneath the advancing Japanese goalkeeper Kaito Yamamoto.

Japan equalised in the 41st minute through Shinji Kagawa who was able to get on the end of move that started when Atsuto Uchida put a through ball into the penalty area, which was expertly dummied by Tadanari Lee on the edge of the box. Takayuki Morimoto picked up the pass and then played a short ball to Kagawa, who was level with the penalty spot. Kagawa pushed his shot to the corner of the goal past a diving Adam Federici.

Kristian Sarkies came close to giving the Qantas Under 23s the lead soon after the start of the second half when he was targeted by a Billy Celeski cross from deep on the right. Sarkies flicked the ball to the near post which drew a fine reflex save from Kaito Yamamoto.

Both teams traded opportunities throughout the second half but none caused too many problems for either goalkeeper. As the half progressed, both coaches made numerous substitutions which changed the style and tempo of play in the final quarter of the match.

Late in the match, the Qantas Under 23s conceded a foul on halfway, with the resultant

free-kick quickly taken by Japan down the left side of the field. Michihiro Yasuda found himself in the corner unable to cross and played a ball back to Hiroyuki Taniguchi. Taniguchi then launched a speculative cross to the far post through a crowded penalty box. Shinji Okazaki deflected the ball past an unsighted Adam Federici, with the ball then hitting the inside of the post and rebounding into the goal for the match winner.

Following the match Graham Arnold was proud of the performance of his players but again disappointed with the final score line.

“A couple of lapses in concentration cost us the game tonight, but I’d prefer that errors like these occur during these friendly matches and we learn from them rather than during the Olympics where these types of mistakes will have more severe consequences.

“Making five changes late in the game disrupts the shape of the team. But at this stage it’s crucial that we have 18 match fit players for the Olympics. We are still building and the performance was very promising when you consider we had a new central defensive partnership and strike force.

“The biggest positives to come out of the match are the performances of Archie Thompson and Jade North.

“Archie showed everyone the quality of player that he really. His goal was a just reward for the effort he put in and the eighty minutes of football in tough humid conditions will help boost his match fitness going into the Olympic Games. I was also very happy with the combination that Archie had formed with Nikita up front. They looked very dangerous.

“Jade North also showed great leadership at the back and I’m happy with the way that he has fitted in with the team and our style of football. His experience will be key to our performance at the Olympics and I’m very comfortable with that fact.

“Japan are a very fit team and all their players are in the middle of their domestic competitions. It was the type of hit out we needed in these hot conditions.

“Now we head off for a week in South Korea to continue our acclimatisation process and tournament preparations.

“We are still 14 days away from our opening match against Serbia and that is still our focus,” concluded Arnold.

The Qantas Under 23s will travel to the Korea Republic tomorrow to continue their pre-Olympic Games Training camp and will face the Korea Republic Under 23 National team at the Seoul World Cup Stadium on Thursday 31 July (Kick-off 9:00pm AEST).

Match Details

Japan Under 23s 2 (Shinji Kagawa 41’, Shinji Okazaki 89’)

Qantas Under 23s 1 (Archie Thompson 34’)
Thursday 24 July 2008

Home’s Stadium, Kobe, Hyogo, Japan
Referee: Min Hu Lee (Korea Republic)

Assistant Referees: Kil Suk Choi (Korea Republic) & Min Byoung Choi (Korea Republic)

Fourth Official: Masaaki Iemoto (Japan)
Crowd: 17,185

Japan 23s line-up: 18.Kaito Yamamoto, 2.Hajime Hosogai (10.Yohei Kajiya 53’), 3. Maya Yoshida, 4.Hiroki Mizumoto (C), 5.Yuto Nagatomo, 7.Atsuto Uchida (13.Michihiro Yasuda 83’), 8.Keisuke Honda (11.Shinji Okazaki 73’), 14.Shinji Kagawa, 15.Takayuki Morimoto (9.Yohei Toyoda 64’), 16.Takuya Honda, 17.Tadanari Lee (12.Hiroyuki Taniguchi 46’).

Substitutes Not Used: 1.Shusaku Nishikawa, 6.Masato Morishige

Yellow Cards: Keisuke Honda 17’, Hiroyuki Taniguchi 57’.

Red Cards: Nil

Qantas Under 23s line-up: 1.Adam Federici (gk), 2.Jade North (3.Adrian Leijer 72’), 4.Stuart Musialik (27.Neil Kilkenny 68’), 5.Mark Milligan (C), 6.Nikolai Topor-Stanley, 7.Kristian Sarkies (11.James Troisi 62’), 10.Archie Thompson (8.Mark Bridge 80’), 12.Matthew Spiranovic, 13.Trent McClenahan, 14.Nikita Rukavytsya, 17.Billy Celeski (15.Ruben Zadkovich 79’).

Substitutes Not Used: 18.Tando Velaphi (gk), 21.James Holland, 20.Nigel Boogaard, 22.Leigh Broxham.

the wrong way and sealing a 3-0 victory for her team.

After the match Matildas coach Tom Sermanni was not surprised about the final result but did have some concerns regarding his teams performance.

“Japan are at the top of their game heading into the Olympics and we are currently going through a rebuilding phase.

“Although the result was not in our favour, I was more disappointed with the way we conceded our goals. But that is something that can be worked on, concluded Sermanni.

The Matildas will now head home and turn their focus to the upcoming ASEAN Football Federation Women’s Championships which will be played in Vietnam in October this year.

Match Details

Japan 3 (Homare Sawa 43’, Yuki Nagasato 47’, Karina Maruyama 86’ (pen))

Matildas 0
Thursday 24 July 2008

Home’s Stadium, Kobe, Hyogo, Japan
Referee: Sook Hee Kim ((Korea Republic)

Assistant Referees: Hisae Yoshizawa (Japan) & Saori Takahashi (Japan)
Fourth Official: Nami Sato (Japan)

Crowd: 9,195

Japan line-up: 1.Miho Fukumoto (gk)(18.Ayumi

Yellow Cards: Mark Milligan 13’.

Red Cards: Nil

Qantas Under 23s Squad for Asia Tour 17-31 July 2008

Nigel Boogaard (Central Coast Mariners), **Mark Bridge** (Sydney FC), **Leigh Broxham** (Melbourne Victory), **David Carney** (Sheffield United, England), **Billy Celeski** (Melbourne Victory), **Adam Federici** (Reading, England), **James Holland** (Newcastle Jets), **Neil Kilkenny** (Leeds United, England), **Adrian Leijer** (Fulham Athletic, England), **Trent McClenahan** (Hereford United, England), **Mark Milligan** (uncontracted), **Stuart Musialik** (Sydney FC), **Jade North** (Newcastle Jets), **Chris O’Connor** (Bray Wanderers, Ireland), **Nikita Rukavytsya** (Perth Glory), **Kristian Sarkies** (Adelaide United), **Matt Simon** (Central Coast Mariners) **Matthew Spiranovic** (FC Nurnberg, Germany), **Archie Thompson** (Melbourne Victory), **Nikolai Topor-Stanley** (Perth Glory), **James Troisi** (uncontracted), **Tando Velaphi** (Perth Glory), **Ruben Zadkovich** (Derby County, England).

Next Match Details

Korea Republic Under 23s v Qantas Under 23s
Thursday 31 July 2008 (Kick-Off Time 8:00pm KST (9:00pm AEST))

Seoul World Cup Stadium, Seoul, Korea Republic



Japan Defeats the Matildas in Kobe

The Matildas have been defeated 0-3 by the Japanese Women’s National Football team at the Home’s Stadium in Kobe.

With a revamped defensive line following the recent retirement of Di Alagich, Caitlin Munoz showed her versatility by starting the match at left back with Clare Polkinghorne and Kim Carroll in the middle and Brooke Spence taking the right back position. Lisa De Vanna and Kathryn Gill also joined the starting line-up after joining the squad from their Swedish Club AIK Stockholm, whilst Heather Garriock wore the Captain’s armband.

The Japanese women had the better of the opening exchanges, holding much possession in the Australian defensive half. The Matildas looked the most dangerous when Heather Garriock combined with Lisa De Vanna who used her speed and skill well to unsettle the Japanese defence. Japan had their first goal scoring opportunity in the 20th minute when Shinobu Ono laid off a pass to Yuki Nagasato who shot to the far post, but Matildas goal keeper Lydia Williams was able to parry the shot wide and deny the host team the opening goal.

Ten minutes later Japan had another opportunity when Aya Miyama hit a stinging shot

from outside the penalty box in the middle of the field. Williams was again up to the challenge and tipped the ball over the bar for a corner.

Williams was called into action again in the 42nd minute when Kozue Ando broke through the defence and went one-on-one with the Australian goal keeper. Williams came off her line well, closed Ando’s angle down and was able to block the shot.

Unfortunately, Williams was unable to produce a save one minute later when Aya Miyama floated in cross from the right to find an unmarked Homare Sawa inside the six yard box. Sawa headed past Williams to give the Japanese a one goal lead going into the half-time break.

Matildas coach Tom Sermanni changed his goal keepers at half time, with Williams replaced by Melissa Barbieri.

Japan doubled their lead in the 47th minute when Yuki Nagasato beat the offside trap to take the ball to the by-line and then turned Brooke Spence before shooting inside the near post giving Barbieri little chance of saving.

Japan continued to apply the pressure and could have extended their lead on a number of occasions, but the Matildas defence was up to the task and Barbieri made a number of keys saves to keep her team in the match.

With five minutes to go, Caitlin Munoz fouled substitute Karina Maruyama in the box and conceded a penalty in the process. Maruyama converted the resulting spot kick sending Barbieri

Kaihoru (gk) 80’), 2.Yukari Kinga (14.Kyoko Yano 73’), 3.Hiromi Ikeda (C)(16.Rumi Utsugi 87’), 5. Miyuki Yanagita, 7.Kozue Ando (12. Karina Maruyama 85’), 4.Azusa Iwashimizu, 10.Homare Sawa, 8.Aya Miyama, 15.Mizuho Sakaguchi, 11.Shinobu Ohno (13.Ayumi Hara 65’), 17.Yuki Nagasato

Substitutes Not Used: 6.Tomoe Kato, 9.Eriko Arakawa.

Yellow Cards: Nil

Red Cards: Nil

Matildas line-up: 18.Lydia Williams (gk) (1.Melissa Barbieri (gk) 46’), 2.Brooke Spence, 4. Clare Polkinghorne, 7.Heather Garriock (C), 8. Caitlin Munoz, 11.Lisa De Vanna (10.Leena Khamis 78’), 12.Kathryn Gill (15.Kyah Simon 78’), 13.Amy Chapman (10.Joanne Burgess 67’), 16.Lauren Colthorpe, 17.Danielle Small (14.Servet Uzunlar 67’), 19.Kim Carroll

Substitutes Not Used: 3.Ellen Beaumont, 5.Renee Rollason.,

Yellow Cards: Caitlin Munoz 55’. Clare Polkinghorne 85’.

Red Cards: Nil

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BOO'S WORLD

With Mark Boric



Channel 7 are once again the target of the ire of football fans around the country. The network which once held the NSL television rights but never showed anything looks like treating the Olyroos as second class citizens. Maybe it's not just a reflection of their value of the game, but a vote against the squad selected by Graham Arnold. They may be actually doing us all a favour.

I saw the light. Actually I saw that the nights went out at half-time during the Altona Magic v Coburg United game, causing an abandonment. Like a darkroom, it will be interesting to see what develops from this.

Mark Bosnich is back playing football, turning out for the Central Coast Mariners in the Pre-Season Cup. Hopefully the funny three-sided stadium up in Gosford with the highway and beach behind one goal will not freak him out too much: "Okay I'm back. Seem's quiet behind me. Damn, where's the stand? Shouldn't there be a stand there? Oh no, I'm seeing things again! Those cars are coming straight at me! Aaarrgh!"

Bosnich appeared on Fox8's Football Superstar a few weeks ago, and looked in

good form. He saved a few penalties from the young pretenders. They later held a penalty competition, but this time with Anthony LaPaglia in goal. This meant anyone who hit the target scored.

This week's Football Superstar saw the team take on the A.I.S. in a friendly up at the AIS Field 14. In light of the recent forty minute halves Foxtel Cup game between the A.I.S. and South Melbourne because the match could not kick-off on time as the nets were not pegged down, it was amusing to see the third goal for the A.I.S. hit the back of the net and then roll all the way through it. Can't the pegs be put in with the bag of match balls so that they are available whenever they play a game? Or maybe each A.I.S. football scholarship holder should be given a couple of pegs to be kept in their kit which they are responsible for pegging down the nets with prior to kick-off. A solution to this madness must be found!

Expect to see Olyroo skipper Mark Milligan wandering down King Street soon, because he's still looking for a club. That may be where he ends up if he doesn't find

one that will have him in Europe soon.

Back to the Pre-Season Cup. Can we get a better name for it? Pre-Season Cup is just so bland, though highly descriptive. Can't the FFA find someone's name they could honour it with? Or are those names too Old Soccer?

A North Queensland team has apparently been accepted into the A-League for 2009-10. Local businessman Don Mathieson's consortium won the bid for the license, which some here in Melbourne will not find to be a magic move. In Melbourne, the bid headed by Peter Sidwell looks to be favourite to get any second Melbourne team license. They are looking at having a base in the City of Casey, so clearly this will be a team for those Melbournians who think the Western Suburbs are a hole.

Finally, best wishes to Semir Sivic who broke his leg playing for Richmond against Heidelberg United on Friday. I hope it's not long before he is back pestering me to make him Man of the Match after any game he played well in, and abusing my choice when Goal! Weekly comes out on Monday if I hadn't.



Well wishes go out to Richmond's Semir Sivic, who broke his leg on Friday night. He's seen here in action against Oakleigh Cannons earlier in the season.



KATSA'S KORNER

With George Katsamboukas

KATSA'S KORNER
7-22

NUMBER CRUNCHING

Last week's story regarding the possibility of altering the number of teams Westgate bound to 2 per league, has been denied by the House of Darebin, where Mark, (G'day Mark), has stated that the relegation system as outlined in this years FFV Rules of Competition will stand.

Some Club Powerbrokers will now return to sleepless nights over the next 5 weeks, and the winners will also be Valium, J Walker, private psychological sessions and City Link, as these "Mothers little Helpers" will help take the edge of these stressful times.

Next week, Katsa will begin to name the Westgate bound teams for seasons end, as some of these teams will get relegated even if they pick up wins in all of their remaining fixtures.

VANIS VANISHES

The Scorer returned to top flight this week with a fresh wicket falling in the Foxtel Cup.

Rumour has it that Vlado Vanis is no longer at Fawkner, whose season has been far from successful.

Further down the leagues we go where Joe "Pepi" Montemuro has taken over at Westgate, who are in danger of being relegated.

Appropriate team name perhaps, Westgate"? A suggestion for Westgate, as I was there last weekend.

Quality Donuts, but some Jam on

them would make them even better.

Life has become difficult at the other end of the ladder also in a number of Leagues.

PROMOTION PROSPECTS

State League Division 1 has gone from a 2 horse race to a 4 horse race with both Sunshine Georgies and Dandy Thunder tripping up over the last 2 weeks.

Enter Bentleigh Greens and Southern Stars who have picked up some valuable points, certainly makes it an interesting next month.

This week's blockbuster sees Bentleigh Greens host Southern Stars at Kingston Heath reserve, should be an interesting game, where both teams will need to pick up maximum points, if they are to hear the Fat Lady sing at season's end.

Raises the question, what does it take to win a championship?

Firstly, and most importantly, players need to stand up under pressure.

Many teams have crumbled towards seasons end because players simply could not handle pressure cooker situations.

Secondly, luck plays a big part also, as Championship winning teams may play poorly, but still manage to pick up points.

And thirdly, the Men in Black come in to play, as crucial players may miss games due to Yellow and Red Tickets.

TICKETS PLEASE

Oh, and lets not forget the House of Darebin, as they also have a role to play, in that they process these yellow and red tickets correctly.

The above comes straight from Katsa's Coaching Manual available at all bad



The two VPL Vados, Vanis and Torteviski, both make the news this weekend. Vanis has left Fawkner and been replaced by Carlos Retre.

Bookstores, written after winning 7 Championships in the State's most insignificant leagues, against the states finest hacks.

SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER

State 2 South East has also now become a 3 Horse race, after Northcote (Out we Come,

Out we Come, Out we Come to Play) City, suffered their third defeat on the trot, this time at the hands of Knox City.

Doncaster Rovers and Knox are within striking distance of the Blue Boys, the next few weeks will reveal more.

Saturday Nights are very interesting nights for Club Powerbrokers, as their team's performance on any given Saturday will determine their activities at night.

Winners usually head to Night Clubs, whilst losers will either spend the night at home, where hopefully their other half's do not want to engage in long conversation, as the last thing that a losing Club Powerbroker wants to do after a defeat, is hear his missus discuss Kids Education, the price of petrol or, that the rubbish is due to be taken out.

Remember there is one common activity that both winners and losers share and that is J Walker!

Until next week.

This is Katsa – Just as you've known him.

And remember, there is no such thing as a Bad Dim Sim!



Gas Bagging, News & Views



TSIGAN'S TSIGAR

With Mike Lilikakis



MAGIC MEMORIES

We're going to go back in time again. I have this penchant for the days of yore, when a yawp actually meant something. Let us therefore relive some classics which were, or what should've been, if the goals were actually legal.

Cheap shots are not confined to pro Wrestling.

Benfica vs. Marseille
European Cup Semi Final.
Second Leg, 1990

With less than ten minutes to go, the Portuguese champions were heading out of the European Cup when they won a corner. As the ball came over, Angolan international striker VATA guided the ball into the net with his forearm.

The strike stood, the game ended 2-2, and Benfica went through on away goals.

The French were less than thrilled and called for Napoleon to arise.

Fat chance of that.

Liverpool vs. Chelsea
Champions League Semi Final.
Second Leg, 2005

Milan Baros tried to lob Petr Cech and was upended by the keeper, but the ball fell to Luis Garcia who edged it on towards goal. William Gallas claimed to have kicked it off the line but the referee said differently.

What else is new?

Poof!

Ta, referee.

West Ham vs. Blackburn Rovers
English Premier League, 2007

Bobby Zamora's shot hit teammate Carlos Tevez, who was on the line and it rebounded out. The goal was given and relegation-threatened West Ham won 2-1.

Whether Tevez was interfering with play is irrelevant. At no time did the ball cross the line. Tevez went on to Manchester United and West Ham went on to bananas with cream.

Bayern Munchen vs. Nurnberg
Bundesliga, 1994

Helmer latched onto a near post flick-on in the six yard box and looked to have pushed



the ball out of play with the back of his knee.

As the teams got ready for a goalkick, the linesman flagged for a goal.

Bayern won 2-1.

Nurnberg complained and there was a replay, which they lost 5-0.

Rigging has 5 different meanings or classifications. You figure which one is apt.

El Salvador vs. Mexico
World Cup First Round, 1970

In the 44th minute, the Central Americans were awarded a free kick deep in their own half. They looked on astonished as Mexico's Padilla stepped up, crossed the ball to Valdivia who scored, and the goal was given.

In the second half, El Salvador kept kicking the ball into the back stench of the Azteca Stadium in protest.

They lost 4-0.

I'd laugh if it wasn't construed as being mean, so I'll refrain.

England vs. West Germany
World Cup Final, 1966

For more than 40 years, all manner of technology has been used to clarify whether referee Gottfried Dienst was right to award Geoff Hurst's second goal.

And to be honest, we still don't know.

Twenty years on, England fans got a taste of bad medicine when Diego Maradonut called

in a favour from down below rather than from above, and was awarded a freebie.

Thanks Mephistopholes.

Anyway, the Germans ought to stop whining about being ripped off, as an English National Team hasn't won a trophy since then, and The Kaiser has acquired quite a few.

Peter Tzamouranis is a spitting image of Ian Rush.

HUNG OUT

Sounds like a porn movie producer's ideal title for an Academy Award winning documentary about a Vietnamese immigrant who tampered with revolutionary scientific curd, and became flyblown.

I'm actually talking about the way VPL teams have been left out to dry this weekend over some drizzle foshizzle.

We do need the rain let's make no bones about it, especially in the catchments. But a few puddles on the park, and games are being called off?

For frog's sake people play football in the snow, and during wild hail storms.

I remember playing way back when sometime in the magnificent '80's at Caloola Reserve and there was nothing but mud on the "pitch"..

We won 8-0 and the game could've gone either way.

The pictures that I saw (via the internet) of certain grounds which had games called off, were nothing more than a toddler's dream of hopping in and out of pools with wellies on.

I'd like to understand what constitutes a game being called off these days because of a wee bit of skyward wee.

All around the globe games are being played on concrete, asphalt, cobblestone, yak breeding grounds, to the joy of countless millions kicking a ball made out of socks, and yet here, we have to travel 60 kilometers to find out that a game is postponed because there are a few poodles on the wing.

Getting a bit tired of paying out the same falafels week in week out, as there is nothing better for them to do than bring Les Murray's World Game into disrepute.

What the heck is Channel 31 going to broadcast 8:30pm on Wednesday night?

Let me guess, the intrinsic values of Harem concubines?

Stay tuned for that one, it should be a doozy featuring a floozy.

Le MANAGER PART 1

Le controversial, le flamboyant, le extravagant, le legendary or just plain old flippin' le boring.

They always take each game as it comes or a game at a time, as being seen to plan for anything more than that is seen as a bit premature or even tempting fate.

This assumes that behind-the-scenes planning is being done for more than one game in advance, but managers cannot be seen to do anything other than concentrate on the next match.

Usually 100% by Scottish standards.

They never see the controversial incident of the match, especially when their player is involved. This could lead to more involvement in the media and more unnecessary controversy.

The leading exponent of this non-observational ability is undoubtedly Arsene Wenger of Arsenal. The flavoured chips that are spat from his lips are nothing short of acidic.

For those managers who chose to see the incident, the referee is always in the wrong when the decision goes against their team, unless they have managed to win the match. They can thus afford to be magnanimous and agree that it was a penalty or their player should've been sent off.

Snigger, Snigger, Chortle, Guffaw.

The referee is always right when the decision is in their favor.

Only managers could come up with quips such as, "The tide is very much in our court now", or "If we played like this every week, we wouldn't be so inconsistent."

Bung raises its ugly head.

Corruption is said to be common place in transfer dealings and agents are classified as scum when they are essentially just trying to get the best deal for their clients, the players. OK, so sometimes they get a bit over enthusiastic, those bloodsucking vermin.

Tommy Docherty once quipped, "The ideal board of directors should comprise three men. Two dead and one dying."

Bon Jovial Mirth at its finest.

SPQR

O.P.P

RUN DMC

Tsigan United FC walking this way.





RED CARDS FLY AS TOP TWO REMAIN NECK-AND-NECK

In a weekend that produced plenty of red cards and a fair few goals, the Sutherland Sharks and Wollongong FC remained deadlocked at the top of the NSW Premier League, making their encounter at Seymour Shaw next week a potential classic.

Sutherland returned to winning ways with a 6-0 thrashing of the West Sydney Berries, but the game could be said to have turned on a crucial incident late in the first half. As Brad Boardman rushed for goal, his heel was clipped by Berries defender Jack Sobczyk, who was shown an automatic “last-man” red card. Jim Bakis scored from the resulting free kick, and Sutherland went on a scoring rampage in the second period, with Ryan Jones becoming the second Berries man to see red three minutes from time.

Wollongong kept pace with the men from the Shire with a 3-2 win over Marconi at John Crehan Park; down 1-0 at half-time, John Turner’s men showed the resilience for which they have become noted this season to recover in the second half to pick up the three points.

Elsewhere, Sydney United remain in serious danger of dropping out of the top five after losing 1-0 to Manly United in a dramatic game at King Tomislav Oval. United had three men sent off in the space

of ten minutes in the second half, and conceded a penalty into the bargain, which was converted by Manly’s Craig Midgley. Despite a spirited fight by the home side thereafter, the scoreline remained the same, and Manly can breathe a little easier.

Not so United, whose loss gave APIA-Leichhardt the chance to break into the top five; their crucial game against Sydney Olympic, however, was postponed due to a thunderstorm across the soggy Lambert Park pitch towards the end of the first half.

In the other matches, Macarthur restored some pride with a 3-2 home win over Penrith-Nepean United, while Bankstown v. Blacktown, an encounter of giants last season but an irrelevant fixture this time around, finished 1-1.

NSWPL/A-LEAGUE TRANSFER NEWS

APIA’s Robert Younis had his move to Adelaide United confirmed during the week, and the powerful front-man can surely look forward to some action during the year, with Adelaide a little short of options up front with the departure of Nathan Burns and Bruce Djite to foreign climes. Another APIA player on the move is Mark Byrnes, who looks set to rejoin Melbourne Victory after a

period with the Lambert Park club.

Pedje Bojic looks certain to join the Central Coast Mariners after missing Sutherland’s game on the weekend to be part of the Mariners’ squad for their pre-season match against Sydney FC. It would be a fitting reward for the elegant defender, who has oozed class in his performances for Sutherland this season.

Also on his way to the Mariners is Sydney Olympic’s promising right-back Nathan Sherlock, who is reported to be joining the Mariners’ youth team. Sherlock, who seized his chance with the Olympic first team following Shannon Cole’s early-season injury, has been a standout in both attack and defence.

Sydney FC have made another addition to their youth setup with the signing of Vedran Janjetovic from Sydney United. A tall, spectacular keeper who has done well to fill the shoes of Justin Pasfield at Edensor Park this season, Janjetovic is definitely one to watch.



TELECHOICE RESULTS

Sutherland Sharks 6 (Jim Bakis 42m Nicholas Stavroulakis 54m Bradley Boardman 68/70/86m Matthew Hall 72m) West Sydney Berries 0, Sydney United 0 Manly United FC 1 (Craig Midgley 71m pen), Macarthur Rams 3 (Glen Trifio 10m pen/13m Shannon Hankin 67m) Penrith Nepean United 2 (Jason Brown 60m Benjamin Wright 87m), Blacktown City Demons 1 (Paul Karbon 89m) Bankstown City 1 (Christopher Godoy-Bascor 25m), Wollongong FC 3 (Christopher Price 68/76m Ilija Prenzoski 85m) Marconi Stallions 2 (Tallon Martin 12m Jay Lucas 54m Pen), APIA Leichhardt Tigers Sydney Olympic Postponed.

TELECHOICE STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	D	Pts
1 Sutherland Sharks	21	12	7	2	47	18	29	43
2 Wollongong FC	21	13	4	4	38	18	20	43
3 Manly United FC	21	12	2	7	40	19	21	38
4 Sydney Olympic	20	11	4	5	34	20	14	37
5 Sydney United	21	9	6	6	29	21	8	33
6 A.P.I.A LeichhardtTigers	20	8	7	5	34	28	6	31
7 Bankstown City	21	6	6	9	24	26	-2	24
8 West Sydney Berries	21	6	3	12	26	40	-14	21
9 Marconi Stallions	21	3	10	8	28	38	-10	19
10 Macarthur Rams	21	4	6	11	14	39	-25	18
11 Penrith Nepean United	21	3	8	10	22	46	-24	17
12 Blacktown City	21	3	7	11	13	36	-23	16

SOUTH HOBART AND DAVENPORT IN CUP FINAL

South Hobart reached their first-ever State-wide cup final in the 98 years of their existence when they beat Glenorchy Knights 3-2 in the semi-finals of the Milan Lakoseljac Memorial Trophy at South Hobart on Saturday.

South Hobart will meet North-West Coast outfit Devonport City in the final at KGV Park on 30 August.

Devonport City downed Clarence United 4-2 away at Wentworth Park the same afternoon.

South Hobart heads the southern Premier League ladder, while Devonport is on top in the northern Premier League, so the sides are, arguably, the two best teams in Tasmania and are worthy cup finalists.

South shocked the Knights when they took the lead after only a minute, Julius Ross rifling home a low shot after David Abbott’s pass took a deflection.

Ross was making his first start in the seniors after impressing in the reserves and doing well in the first-team whenever called upon as a substitute.

He replaced 15-year-old Greg Downes, who had scored the only goal in the previous weekend’s 1-0 win over Hobart Olympic and who left on Tuesday for the UK where he is to have trials with Premier League club Sunderland and Division One outfit Walsall.

The Knights were almost level when Jade Clay’s shot hit the crossbar and post before landing safely in the arms of South goalkeeper, Mark Moncur.

In the 24th minute, Janko Begovic released Igor down the right and the 20-year-old Brazilian placed a low shot beyond Moncur and inside the far left-hand post to make it 1-1.

Three minutes before the interval, Knights midfielder Tony Dzelalija body-checked former team-mate and South midfielder Jonathon Ladic on the edge of the box and conceded a free-kick. Dzelalija was also shown the yellow card.

Abbott scored with the low free-kick that flew past the defensive wall and lodged



Goal! Weekly’s very own Julius Ross wheels away after scoring for South Hobart against the Knights

inside Knights goalkeeper Ben Peter’s right-hand post to give South a 2-1 lead at the interval.

In the 65th minute, David Cooper made it 3-1 for South Hobart, but Igor pulled a goal back a minute later with a brilliant strike. Gaining possession 25 metres from goal, the Brazilian, who trialed with Melbourne Knights last week, sliced a shot over Moncur and the ball dipped just under the crossbar.

South had several more scoring chances before the end, but poor finishing denied them and they hung on comfortably for an historic win.

In the other semi-final, the visiting Devonport City led Clarence United 3-0 at half-time and were never in danger.

Chris McKenna hit a hat-trick for the northerners, whose other goal came from Simon Wilson.

Ben Hamlett netted for Clarence and

Dwayne Walsh’s late strike made it 4-2, but it was too little, too late, to take the game into extra-time.

The previous Saturday, Southern Tasmania beat Northern Tasmania 2-1 at the Aurora Stadium in Launceston in the curtain-raiser to the A-League pre-season cup match between Melbourne Victory and Adelaide United, which the latter won 2-1.

Goals by Ricky Self and Dwayne Walsh gave Southern Tasmania victory, while Chris McKenna replied for Northern Tasmania with a clinical header.

Southern Tasmania coach Eamonn Kelly surprised everyone by using leading striker Billy Gasparinatos as a man-marking defender shadowing McKenna.

These representative teams will meet again in September in a two-match home-and-away series.

SOUTH TPL STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Hobart	14	11	1	2	43	12	34
Tilford Zebras	14	10	1	3	60	22	31
Hobart Olympic	14	9	2	3	39	24	29
Glen Knights	14	8	2	4	34	23	26
University	14	7	2	5	27	25	23
Clarence Utd	14	5	2	7	22	30	17
King Lions	14	3	5	6	23	38	14
NT Eagles	13	3	3	7	12	22	12
Metro FC	13	2	1	10	17	39	7
Taroona	14	0	3	11	15	57	3

NORTH TPL STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Devonport City	12	10	1	1	46	10	31
Nthn Rangers	13	8	4	1	38	14	28
Prosp Knights	13	8	1	4	28	20	25
Burnie United	13	7	3	3	26	26	24
Somerset	12	7	0	5	31	17	21
Rivers Olympic	12	4	1	7	20	26	13
Launceston C	12	2	4	6	21	27	10
Launceston U	13	2	1	10	12	50	7
Ulverstone	12	0	1	11	9	41	1



FOOTBALL FEDERATION
TASMANIA

By Walter Pless

Photos by Walter Pless

JETS BOMB REIGNING CHAMPS WITH DOUBLE BARREL VICTORY

As if the season wasn't close enough for top five and relegation positions, Round 16 results went the way of most of the bottom five teams with Raiders, Modbury and White City all notching up wins to put the cat amongst the pigeons and taking the final run home right down to the wire.

Friday night football returned to Jet Park for only the second time this season, with what was touted as the 'penultimate' match for the Modbury Jets. Fans witnessed one of the best wins in the Club's history as the home side bombarded the reigning champions and league leaders Adelaide City with a big 2-0 victory. The first half saw a very tight game being played out, a couple of scoring chances seen by both sides but the Jets working to plan, holding off the visitors to a scoreless 45 minutes. The Jet's weapon of mass destruction was Scott Weidenbach, with some brilliant work continually pushing the ball up field creating numerous opportunities for his forwards.

Midway through the second half, rewards for Weidenbach, setting up a beautiful ball for young Damir Metljak to finish and put the Jets in front. Modbury were challenged by Adelaide City trying to score on the counter attack, but Jets keeper Paul Reilly was a rock solid force field, thwarting any chances of the champions equalizing. In the last ten minutes of the match, Weidenbach was again in the midst of things, shaking off City's midfield with another run through the park to finish off with a great shot that caught out City's keeper Ben Moore, giving the home side a two goal lead. Jets Captain Nathan Day had another classic game, leading his backline to success by keeping City's strike force of Mori and Patrick DeRuvo at bay.

As the final whistle blew, the fans erupted with a roaring cheer, the historic win re-writing the history books but also delivering a hard blow to the reigning champions with their second straight loss. Jets Coach Duane Gray said, "We played a very disciplined game against Adelaide city and the players stuck to their roles well. After a fairly even first half we over ran them in the second and deserved the win.

It was the mid-table battle at Newton Village Sports Centre where fourth placed Campbelltown City and fifth placed Para Hills Knights toughed out a 2-2 all draw. With the Red Devils coming off a high, defeating Adelaide City on the Monday night and the Knights peaking at the right time, the match was a fight to see who would retain a Top Five spot as the season draws to a close. After a scoreless first half, all action came in the second with Campbelltown's



Campbelltown defender Michael D'Aloisio uses some of his 'defensive' moves on Knights striker Mark Mulady

Nathan Fleetwood pumping the goals within the first five minutes but not finding his target. At the 55th minute mark of the game Knight's Michael Mullen received his marching orders after two quick fouls on Campbelltown's Domenic Signoriello, both receiving yellows and taking his side down to ten men. The Red Devils took quick advantage of the loss, Jason Trimboli putting in a great cross from the left of field to find Simon Catanzaro on his own to volley away the first of the match. To their credit, the Knights kept their form and minutes later equalised via a Nicholas Orr great curling free kick to square the game up. Both sides were putting up a great fight the game being playing end to end chances to score there for the taking. Eight minutes before games end, the undermanned charging Knights scored their second, coming from a great pass by Shane Tobias finding Mark Mulady who put it past the Red Devils keeper Edward Scalzi. The Red Devils were not about the let this

game slip out of their hands, converting a last minute Knights throw-in to their advantage after defender Michael Menechella passed the ball to Josef Anello, who lobbed it up for striker Jason Trimboli to take a one-on-one with the keeper chip and give both sides the single point.

At the Marden Sports Complex the Adelaide Blue Eagles went down 0-1 to the White City Warriors which has sent them down to eighth position on the Super League ladder. The goal scorer for the Warriors was newly signed defender George Tsonis who recently moved from Adelaide City. Despite still sitting in ninth position on the ladder, the win has put The Warriors right in with the rest of pack in the middle of the table on 20 points, only four behind the third placed team Galaxy. Although coming off another loss, the Blue Eagles Lachlan Campbell was in the best players list again, keeping him in real contention for the 2008

Sergio Melta Medal for Super League Player of the Year. But his side have now had two draws and three losses from their last five matches and face the danger of possible relegation in their 50th Anniversary year, a statistic they would want to change quickly.

At Con Makris Park the Raiders desperate to improve their position on the ladder, took on Adelaide Galaxy and won, the single goal from young striker Osama Malik the only score for the match. Both sides were almost at full strength for this game, Galaxy's Evan Kounavelis playing his second game for the side after missing most of this season due to long term injury and Raiders Aaron Westervelt back for his second. The game was another one of those that remained scoreless at the half time break despite Galaxy having the slight upper hand on their opponents, missing several chances to convert. Raiders tightened up in the second half playing out a hungrier more determined style of football, their gret back line and midfield working well, but some wayward passing by Galaxy eventually contributing to their defeat and the win sending Raiders to a position knocking on the door of the top five. Galaxy Coach Carl Maynard stated, "Basically we gave up our good constructive passing and forward movement for a long ball and see what happens style of play which was our own undoing." Interesting to see that along with this result, the Raiders have faced up well to the top five teams in the second half of the season, beating Campbelltown and Para Hills 4-0, drawing 2-2 with MetroStars and narrowly missing out with a 2-3 loss to Adelaide City.

The game at Polonia Park saw second placed MetroStars defeat the Croydon Kings 6-0 in what most would have anticipated would be the result. The Kings again put up a good first half brand of football, keeping the league title contenders scoreless. But what has now unfortunately become the norm, their second half of football is where they come undone and MetroStars let loose. A long list of goal scorers each contributed to the big score, Scott Tunbridge scoring a brace and Daniel Spagnuolo, James Yong, Jim Stavrides and their captain Ivan Karlovic all scoring singles.

With only four points now separating third position down to ninth, the race is still on for teams to firstly get a spot in the top five and secondly avoid the relegation battle.

By Nat Adamopoulos
Photo by George Manos



FOOTBALL WEST STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Sorrento FC	14	9	3	2	40	23	17	30
Floreat Athena	14	9	1	4	29	17	12	28
Perth Soccer	14	8	3	3	32	24	8	27
Inglewood U	14	8	2	4	27	22	5	26
Cockburn City	14	7	4	3	32	29	3	25
Mandurah City	14	7	2	5	41	26	15	23
ECU Joondalup	14	6	2	6	33	27	6	20
Stirling Lions	14	5	4	5	27	21	6	19
Swan I.C. SC	14	4	3	7	28	32	-4	15
Western Knights	14	4	2	8	21	31	-10	14
Armadale SC	14	2	2	10	11	38	-27	8
Fremantle SC	14	0	2	12	10	41	-31	2



SUPER LEAGUE STANDINGS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Adelaide City	16	11	1	4	30	14	16	34
MetroStars	16	10	3	3	35	14	21	33
Adelaide Galaxy	16	7	3	6	29	24	5	24
Campbelltown	16	6	5	5	18	18	0	23
Para Hills	16	6	4	6	22	25	-3	22
Raiders	16	5	6	5	28	21	7	21
Modbury	16	6	3	7	20	23	-3	21
Blue Eagles	16	5	5	6	16	18	-2	20
Woodville	16	6	2	8	17	24	-7	20
Croydon	16	0	4	12	11	45	-34	4

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This week's football television & radio listings.

FOXTEL CUP

The Victorian Football Show
Every Wednesday C31 8pm

The Green Gully Football Show

Every Saturday C31 10.30am

World Game Football Show

88.6 FM Plenty Valley
11am Every Saturday

Classic Quotes

A champion is someone who does not settle for that day's practice, that day's competition, that day's performance. They are always striving to be better. They don't live in the past.

- Briana Scurry

Those who say it can't be done, shouldn't interfere with those who are doing it.

- Billy Eberhart

The Glaswegian definition of an atheist: a bloke who goes to a Rangers-Celtic match to watch the football.

- Sandy Strang

We hope Du Wei could be Yao Ming on the football pitch here

- Gordon Strachan

Double Take

Our first Double Take features two blokes currently on the sidelines at the moment.

Springvale's White Eagles' Simon Webster is out injured with a broken ankle, while Carl Williams has to wait a little longer to get back into the action after being convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment for his involvement in the Melbourne gangland murders.



Williams



Webster

A little bit of this, that & the other

PHOENIX RISE TO NEW HEIGHTS

WELLINGTON Phoenix memberships have surged past last season's figure, with 2650 people signing up for the capital club's second season in the Hyundai A-League.

A total of 2561 members backed the Phoenix in season one and the breaking of that mark indicates strong and growing interest in the capital club's second shot in the competition.

Following on from the Phoenix's promising early build-up, including Sunday's 1-0 win against reigning Hyundai A-League premiers the Central Coast Mariners in a 2008 Pre-Season Cup clash at Westpac Stadium in Wellington, the new membership mark is yet another fillip for the club.

Phoenix chief executive Tony Pignata was rapt with the early response to season memberships.

"We're very happy with the support we've had from season ticket-holders. There's a bit of a way to go to 5000, which is our target, but overall to be in this position so early in the scheme of things is great."

Pignata urged people still considering throwing their support behind the Phoenix to get onboard sooner rather than later.

"People who sign on before the season starts are going to enjoy all the benefits of membership, particularly the significant savings on standard ticket prices. It also means you're own assured of your own reserved seat for all 11 home games and you avoid the queues on match-day.

"Plus, you're supporting the club, and we want all the support we can get in our second season."

The club has introduced new "benchwarmer" memberships for out-of-



Wellington Phoenix aims to fill the 34,500 capacity at Westpac Stadium as it prepares for another crack at the A-league come August

town supporters and has been working closely with Ticketek to ensure the membership purchasing process is as simple and smooth as possible.

"We want people to feel a part of something special. This year's theme – 'rise as one' – is indicative of our ambitions. Players, coaches, management, members – we're all part of one club."

Phoenix season membership information can be found at www.wellingtonphoenix.com.

The Phoenix's next match is a 2008 Pre-Season Cup fixture against the Queensland Roar on the Sunshine Coast on Sunday, July 27. They then take on Sydney

FC in another 2008 Pre-Season Cup match in Wollongong on August 2.

The Wellington club's first match of the Hyundai A-League 2008/09 season is against the Queensland Roar at Westpac Stadium on Sunday, August 17.

In the meantime, the club's already impressive defensive and midfield stocks have been further bolstered by the signing of former Scunthorpe United and current All Whites player David Mulligan.

The 26-year-old defender joins the Phoenix on a two-year deal after a long career in England, including two seasons with Scunthorpe in the Championship, one tier below the Premiership.

Costa Rican duo set to star in Melbourne

Costa Rican internationals Jose Luis Lopez and Carlos Hernandez (pictured) are looking forward to forming one of the most exciting partnerships in the short history of the Hyundai A-League.

Lopez and Hernandez have been close friends for more than eight years, which was a crucial factor in Lopez's move to Melbourne Victory from Costa Rican giant Deportivo Saprissa, where he won four national titles in five seasons.

"He's a very smart boy," Lopez said of Hernandez.

"We have a great friendship and he makes things easier for me.

"I know his skills and his weaknesses and he knows mine, so it fits very well.

"I know what he likes, where he likes to receive the ball, where he needs to be best positioned.

"You have great stadiums and the football looks better (in Australia). In Costa Rica we're very talented and have a lot of skill, but we don't have the facilities. "I think it's going to be a great year."

Victory Coach Ernie Merrick said Lopez, who is set to feature against Perth

Glory at Members Equity Stadium this Saturday, will be the club's final signing ahead of the Hyundai A-League 2008/09 season.

"I'm excited about Jose Luis joining us," Merrick said. "He's a top quality, professional player.

"We really need a holding midfielder, no-frills, ball winning type of player and Jose Luis fills that spot perfectly."

"It is an opportunity for Jose Luis to play in a different country and see what its like outside of Costa Rica."

Merrick met with Lopez on a recent scouting trip to Central America and convinced the midfielder to join Victory after watching him in action for Saprissa, which is a fierce rival of Hernandez's former team LD Alajuelense.

"In Saprissa, I used to mark Carlos out of the game all the time," Lopez joked.

Merrick added: "We had many telephone conversations and I had to fly over just before the Chonburi game and I managed to watch him play.

"It was important that I not only looked at DVDs and spoke to Carlos in great detail about Jose Luis, but it was very

important that I went over to see him play live.

"It was also important to meet him personally.

"He's professionalism stood out, and his determination and enthusiasm to win."



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Results & Ladders

MENS METROPOLITAN LEAGUE: Caulfield Grammarians 1 (DJ Barker) East Bentleigh 3 (A Blit C Ziaei 2), Upfield 1 (W Hanna) Reservoir Strikers 0, Broadmeadows Utd 1 (O Ermis) St. Kevins 1 (M Gluscevic), Meadow Park 0 Ringwood City 0, Glen Waverley 0 Darebin Legends 0, Res: Caulfield Grammarians 3 East Bentleigh 4, Upfield 2 Reservoir Strikers 0, Broadmeadows Utd 1 St. Kevins 2, Meadow Park 0 Ringwood City 2, Glen Waverley 3 Darebin Legends 1

WOMENS STATE LEAGUE: Div 1 Sen: South Yarra 0 Brighton 2 (D Hompat G Hollingsworth), Whitehorse Utd 4 (EE Walker 2 S Lewis C Marshall) Bayswater Strikers 0, Monbulk 2 (NJ Cranston V Ellis) Ballarat Strikers 0, GRFA 0 Uni. of Melbourne 3 (C Borg 2 Own Goal), Res: South Yarra 2 Brighton 2, Whitehorse Utd 2 Bayswater Strikers 1, Monbulk 1 Ballarat Strikers 0, GRFA 0 Uni. of Melbourne 5

Div 2 North-West: North Geelong 5 (L Grabowski 3 A Crawford A Berginc) Port Melbourne 1 (J Floros), La Trobe University 0 Melton 2 (S Camilleri S Papanastatasos), Melbourne Bears 0 Altona City 9, Bundoora Utd 12 (M Zilic 2 S Peluso 2 N Nicolaou 3 R Subotic A Ianni 3 AC Koulousianis) Brunswick Zebras 0, Darebin Falcons 3 (NK Morgan J Murphy 2) Fawkner Blues 3 (AK McDonald S Basile F Basile)

Div 2 South-East: South Springvale 5 (C Cristiano M Batinic 2 M Tartaglia 2) Beaumaris 0, Mooroolbark 2 (A D'Ortenzio 2) Monash University 0, Southern Suburbs 3 (T Moutafis J De Noto K Larby) Ashburton 1 (A Ormando), Sandringham Knox Utd , Berwick City 12 (J Cary 3 S Ryan L Plowman K Wilson 3 N Mitchell 3 C Tiscia) Bentleigh Greens 0

Div 3 North-West: Western Suburbs 0 Western Eagles 2 (C Sliwinski 2), Melbourne Tornado 0 Maribyrnong Greens 0, Sunshine Georgies 2 (J Ghirxi S Murdaca) Maribyrnong Utd 0, Westvale 0 West Preston 4 (R Sabra T De Melo 2 E Natsis), Diamond Valley Utd 2 (B Prestigiacomio M Demellis) Epping City 0

Div 3 South-East: Ashburton 1 (R Drew) Albert Park WSC 1 (AF Tardif), Noble Park 0 Sandringham 0, South Melbourne 7 (A Talevska 3 AC O'Connell S Kennedy 2 HK Jankiewicz) Knox City 1 (L Antolini), Richmond 2 (E Meallin 2) Endeavour Utd 4 (K Fernandes 2 S Williamson 2),

WOMENS METROPOLITAN LEAGUE: North-West: Old Carey 7 Fitzroy City 3, Cairnlea WSC 6 Brunswick City 1, Brunswick Zebras 4 (S Alexopoulos 2 C Michal Y Mojica-Perez) Uni. of Melbourne 0, Kyneton District 5 (A Laing 2 JE MacDonald SM Bender J Sandle) Mitchell Rangers 1, FC Bulleen Lions 0 DOC United WFC 0

South-East: North Caulfield 3 Sandringham 1, Monash University 2 Endeavour Hills 4, Ringwood City 6 Albert Park WSC 0, East Bentleigh 2 Croydon City Arrows 1

MENS THIRDS: Metro North-West: Old Melbourne 2 Clifton Hill 1, St. Kevins 1 Collingwood City 0, Werribee City 8 Fawkner Blues 1

Metro South-East: Bayside Argonauts 5 Scotch Old Boys 2, Old Melbourne 1 Monash University 5, Melbourne University Rangers 2 Central Park AC Malvern 2, Old Trinity Grammarians 1 Old Camberwell Grammar 4,

Central: Waverley Wanderers 0 Central Park Rangers 2, Juventus Old Boys 2 South Yarra 1, Nunawading City 2 Monash University 1

North: Brunswick City 2 Melton 1,

North-West: Cairnlea 2 La Trobe University 7 (Y Morsi JA Aguilar R Gandolfo PH Ong S Greet M Scagnetto 2), Melbourne University Rangers 8 Upfield 1, Mitchell Rangers 0 Keilor Park 3, Brimbank Hoppers Crossing ,

South: Doveton 1 Berwick City 0, Southern Suburbs 5 Dandenong Thunder 3, Beaumaris 3 Monash University 1,

South-East: Scotch Old Boys 3 Cleeland Utd 2, Boroondara Eagles 2 Marcellin Eagles SC 3, Old Trinity Grammarians 4 Old Carey 1, Brighton 5 Caulfield Grammarians 2

MENS MASTERS: Metro: Heidelberg Utd 1 Moreland City 1, Sunshine Blues 4 Whittlesea Utd 0,

South-East: Southern Suburbs 1 Glen Waverley 3, Juventus Old Boys 4 Doncaster Rovers 3, Endeavour Hills 3 Beaumaris Masters 1, Doveton 0 Mooroolbark 11

Central: Eastern Lions 3 Whitehorse Utd 1

Mens Metropolitan League	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Upfield	17	14	3	0	55	19	45
Meadow Park	17	10	5	2	45	21	35
Reservoir Strikers	17	9	2	6	44	30	29
East Bentleigh	17	8	1	8	28	23	25
Ringwood City	16	7	3	6	29	18	21
Broadmeadows Utd	16	5	6	5	26	31	21
Glen Waverley	17	5	4	8	26	39	19
Darebin Legends	17	4	5	8	33	37	17
St. Kevins	17	3	6	8	31	59	15
Caulfield Grammarian	17	1	1	15	11	51	4

Mens Metropolitan League Reserves	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Upfield	16	13	1	2	54	18	40
East Bentleigh	16	13	1	2	55	20	40
Darebin Legends	17	11	3	3	50	21	36
Reservoir Strikers	17	8	4	5	29	25	28
Meadow Park	17	6	4	7	27	25	22
Ringwood City	16	7	2	7	29	31	20
Glen Waverley	17	5	3	9	23	40	18
St. Kevins	17	2	4	11	26	55	10
Caulfield Grammarians	17	2	4	11	20	50	10
Broadmeadows Utd	16	2	2	12	18	46	8

Womens State League Div 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Uni. of Melbourne	12	8	4	0	31	8	28
Bayswater Strikers	13	6	5	2	20	15	23
GRFA	12	5	4	3	18	18	19
Whitehorse Utd	13	4	5	4	19	14	17
Monbulk	12	4	4	4	21	24	16
Brighton	12	3	4	5	20	23	13
Ballarat Strikers	12	3	2	7	18	22	11
South Yarra	13	3	2	8	21	35	11
Whittlesea Zebras	11	2	4	5	10	19	10

Womens State League Div 1 Reserves	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Uni. of Melbourne	12	10	1	1	48	8	31
Whitehorse Utd	13	8	3	2	28	16	27
Monbulk	12	7	1	4	22	20	22
Whittlesea Zebras	11	6	1	4	21	20	19
Brighton	12	5	2	5	28	23	17
Bayswater Strikers	13	5	0	8	17	26	15
GRFA	12	3	3	6	21	29	12
South Yarra	13	1	4	8	8	38	7
Ballarat Strikers	12	1	3	8	11	24	6

Womens State League Div 2 North-West	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Altona City	13	12	1	0	71	8	37
Bundoora Utd	13	11	1	1	74	18	34
Melton	14	7	2	5	17	16	23
La Trobe University	14	7	1	6	25	22	22
North Geelong	13	6	2	5	26	21	20
Port Melbourne	13	6	0	7	26	31	18
Fawkner Blues	14	5	2	7	30	45	17
Melbourne Bears	13	5	0	8	17	40	15
Darebin Falcons	13	2	3	8	19	29	9
Brunswick Zebras	14	0	0	14	6	81	0

Womens State League Div 2 South-East	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
South Springvale	14	14	0	0	49	8	42
Berwick City	14	9	1	4	41	21	28
Monash University	14	8	4	2	30	15	28
Knox Utd	13	6	1	6	37	28	19
Ashburton	14	5	4	5	28	31	19
Sandringham	13	4	5	4	23	22	17
Mooroolbark	14	4	2	8	14	32	14
Southern Suburbs	14	4	1	9	25	29	13
Beaumaris	14	2	3	9	13	37	9
Bentleigh Greens	14	2	1	11	8	45	7

Womens State League Div 3 North-West	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Western Eagles	14	14	0	0	70	5	42
West Preston	14	9	1	4	43	16	28
Western Suburbs	12	8	1	3	32	10	25
Sunshine Georgies	13	7	3	3	32	21	24
Diamond Valley Utd	13	6	3	4	21	21	21
Melbourne Tornado	13	6	1	6	20	17	19
Epping City	14	3	3	8	12	25	12
Maribyrnong Greens	14	3	2	9	14	32	11
Maribyrnong Utd	13	3	2	8	15	35	11
Westvale	14	0	0	14	7	84	0

Womens State League Div 3 South-East	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Albert Park WSC	13	11	1	1	24	8	34
Mornington Flames	13	10	1	2	40	10	31
Endeavour Utd	13	9	1	3	41	18	28
Doncaster Rovers	12	9	0	3	52	15	27
Noble Park	13	7	4	2	35	12	25
Richmond	13	5	0	8	12	39	15
Sandringham	14	4	2	8	18	30	14
Ashburton	13	2	4	7	20	34	10
South Melbourne	14	2	1	11	17	43	7
Knox City	14	0	0	14	5	55	0

Womens Metropolitan League North-West	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
FC Bulleen Lions	14	11	3	0	71	10	36
Old Carey	12	9	1	2	55	19	28
Kyneton District	14	9	1	4	36	22	28
Cairnlea WSC	13	8	1	4	68	26	25
DOC United WFC	12	6	2	4	41	24	20
Brunswick Zebras	14	6	1	7	35	32	19
Brunswick City	13	4	2	7	28	34	14
Fitzroy City	13	4	0	9	35	49	12
Uni. of Melbourne	13	2	1	10	16	66	7
Mitchell Rangers	14	1	0	13	12	115	3

Womens Metropolitan League South-East	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Endeavour Hills	14	11	2	1	58	16	35
North Caulfield	13	10	2	1	32	11	32
Ringwood City	14	9	3	2	57	16	30
East Bentleigh	14	7	4	3	34	28	25
Brighton	13	6	3	4	24	21	21
Croydon City Arrows	14	5	2	7	26	24	17
Monash University	13	5	2	6	21	22	17
Sandringham	14	2	3	9	14	43	9
Swinburne Universit	13	1	2	10	9	41	5
Albert Park WSC	14	0	1	13	7	60	1

Mens Thirds Metro North-West	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Werribee City	12	9	2	1	46	17	29
Altona East Phoenix	11	7	3	1	42	16	24
St. Kevins	12	7	2	3	27	22	23
Collingwood City	13	3	5	5	27	30	14
Clifton Hill	12	4	1	7	23	30	13
Old Melbourne	12	3	3	6	20	29	12
Uni. of Melbourne	12	3	3	6	22	37	12
Reservoir Stars	12	3	2	7	27	39	11
Fawkner Blues	12	2	5	5	22	36	11
Melbourne Lions	0				0	0	3

Mens Thirds Metro South-East	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Bayside Argonauts	14	10	4	0	70	16	34
Old Camberwell Gram	13	9	1	3	47	23	28
Melbourne University	14	8	2	4	31	17	26
South Yarra	13	8	2	3	33	21	26
Monash University	13	8	1	4	46	19	25
Old Melbourne	14	7	3	4	38	25	24
Central Park AC Malv	14	6	4	4	39	30	22
Riversdale	13	5	3	5	32	24	18
Sandringham City	12	4	0	8	24	34	12
Old Trinity Grammari	13	2	0	11	16	68	6
Nova FC	13	2	0	11	15	71	6
Scotch Old Boys	14	1	0	13	11	54	3

Mens Thirds Central	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
South Yarra	14	11	1	2	74	9	34
La Trobe University	13	8	5	0	46	12	29
Juventus Old Boys	13	8	5	0	41	18	29
Boroondara Eagles	13	8	1	4	37	34	25
Nunawading City	14	6	4	4	30	28	22
Central Park Rangers	13	4	3	6	18	33	15

North Caulfield	12	4	2	6	28	28	14
Monash University	14	3	1	10	16	28	10
Ashburton	12	3	0	9	16	48	9
Waverley Wanderers	14	0	0	14	5	73	0

Mens Thirds North	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
La Trobe University	11	11	0	0	45	7	33
DOC United FC	13	5	6	2	36	19	21
Brunswick City	12	6	1	5	30	25	19
Plenty Valley Lions	11	6	1	4	22	20	19
Moreland City	12	4	2	6	12	17	14
Watsonia Heights	12	4	2	6	27	36	14
Uni. of Melbourne	13	4	2	7	16	33	14
Melbourne Lions	12	4	3	5	23	21	12
Melton	12	2	2	8	16	34	8
Fawkner Blues	8	2	1	5	10	25	7

Mens Thirds North-West	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
La Trobe University	14	8	5	1	36	24	29
Cairnlea	13	8	2	3	37	26	26
Mitchell Rangers	13	7	2	4	18	17	23
Keilor Park	14	5	5	4	26	22	20
Melbourne Universit	13	5	4	4	21	13	19
Upfield	14	4	4	6	32	36	16
Essendon Utd	13	4	4	5	28	32	16
Brimbank	12	3	6	3	21	20	15
Hoppers Crossing	13	2	3	8	20	29	9
Greenvale United SC	9	0	1	8	9	29	1

Mens Thirds South	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Doveton	14	11	2	1	49	6	35
Southern Suburbs	13	8	4	1	26	11	28
Boroondara Eagles	13	6	5	2	30	21	23
Dandenong Thunder	14	6	2	6	52	48	20
Berwick City	14	6	1	7	25	21	29
Monash University	14	5	3	6	26	39	18
Sandringham City	13	4	3	6	17	26	15
Bayside Argonauts	12	3	3	6	13	28	12
Beaumaris	14	2	4	8	17	29	10
Waverley Wanderers	13	1	3	9	11	37	16

JUNIORS
Results & Ladders

Boys East 11 Joeyes Orange: Sherbrooke Rangers Bye , North Caulfield Mooroolbark , Knox City 7 Richmond 0, Ringwood City 1 Whitehorse 0, Riversdale 1 Waverley Wanderers 4

Boys East 11 Joeyes Purple:

Boys East 11 Joeyes Red: North Caulfield Ashburton , Knox City 5 East Bentleigh 0, Glen Waverley 6 Richmond 0, Doncaster Rovers Boroondara Lions , Oakleigh 1 Whitehorse 1

Boys N/W 16 B:

Boys North 16 A: Bye Epping City , Coburg Utd 0 Essendon Royals 4, Bundoora Utd 0 Moreland Utd 0, Whittlesea Zebras Heidelberg Stars , Brunswick Zebras Northcote City

Boys North 16 B: Moreland Wolves Bundoora Utd , Watsonia Heights 7 Sunbury Utd 0, Mitchell Rangers Hume Utd , Essendon Utd Light Utd , Brunswick Zebras DOC United FC

Boys North 15 A: Bundoora Utd 1 Moreland City 0, Epping City 2 Fawkner 2, Brunswick Zebras Essendon Royals , Light Utd 2 Heidelberg Utd 1, Whittlesea Zebras Lalor Utd

Boys North 15 B: Epping City 0 Moreland Utd 2, Watsonia Heights 2 Brunswick City 2, Diamond Valley Utd 2 Northcote City 2, Moreland City 1 Bundoora Utd 10, Plenty Valley Lions 9 Heidelberg Stars 0

Boys North 14 A: Bundoora Utd 2 Preston Lions 1, Light Utd 1 Fawkner 1, Greenvale Utd 0 Sunbury Utd 0, Clifton Hill 1 Essendon Royals 2, Eltham North 1 Epping City 3

Boys North 14 B: Whittlesea Zebras Meadow Park , Watsonia Heights 4 Banyule City 0, Moreland City 5 Fawkner 0, Northcote City 9 Epping City 0, Brunswick Zebras Bundoora Utd

Boys North 14 C: Coburg Utd Eltham North , Moreland Wolves 4 Alphington 1, Brunswick Zebras Banyule City , North City Lions Essendon Royals , Bye FC City Central

Boys North 13 A: Essendon Royals Bye , Epping City 1 North City Lions 1, Diamond Valley Utd 2 Brunswick City 2, Preston Lions Reservoir Strikers , Whittlesea Zebras Moreland City

Boys North 13 B: Hume Utd 1 Clifton Hill 2, Watsonia Heights 0 Fawkner 7, Lalor Utd Essendon Utd , Brunswick Zebras Epping City , Alphington 4 Eltham North 0

Boys North 13 C:

Boys North 12 A: Bundoora Utd 0 Eltham North 0, Coburg Utd 3 Epping City 3, Brunswick City 1 Essendon Royals 0, Meadow Park 1 Hume Utd 3, Whittlesea Zebras Light Utd

Boys North 12 B: Bye Coburg Utd , Fawkner 0 Brunswick Zebras 6, Greenvale Utd 2 Light Utd 1, Northcote City 2 Moreland City 0, Preston Lions 4 Moreland Wolves 0

Boys North 12 C: Hume Utd 1 Moreland Utd 3, Watsonia Heights 2 Banyule City 3, Sunbury Utd 0 Essendon Royals 6, Heidelberg Utd Epping City , Alphington 1 Diamond Valley Utd 4

Boys North 12 D: DOC United FC North Lions , Pascoe Vale 3 North City Lions 3, Eltham North 0 Mitchell Rangers 1, Broadmeadows Utd 0 Plenty Valley Lions 5, Brunswick Zebras Bundoora Utd

Boys North 11 Kangaroos Yellow: Epping City Fawkner , Diamond Valley Utd 0 Lalor Utd 8, Brunswick Zebras Brunswick City , Sunbury Utd 10 Meadow Park 0, Heidelberg Stars 1 Bundoora Utd 2

Boys North 11 Joeyes Blue: Bye Banyule City , Bundoora Utd 0 Moreland Utd 3, Fawkner 4 Mitchell Rangers 1, Northcote City 4 Light Utd 1, Avondale Heights Moreland City

Boys North 11 Joeyes/Kangaroos Orange: Essendon Royals 2 1 Alphington 1 2, Alphington 2 0 Heidelberg Utd 2, Yarraville 9 Eltham North 2 1, Eltham North 1 7 Watsonia Heights 1, Greenvale Utd 0 Essendon Royals 1 3

Boys North 11 Joeyes/Kangaroos Red: Upfield 1 Clifton Hill 1, Watsonia Heights 0 North City Lions 1, Whittlesea Zebras Brunswick Zebras , Plenty Valley Lions 3 Hume Utd 0, St. Albans Saints 6 Moreland Wolves 0

Boys West 16 A: Gisborne Bye , Williamstown 2 Sunbury Utd 1, Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 2 Laverton Park 1, Keilor Park 0 South Yarra 1, Hoppers Crossing Green Gully

Boys West 16 B: Altona City Bye , Western Eagles 2 Sydenham Park 0, Melton 0 Brimbank 5, Reservoir Strikers 3 South Yarra 2, Altona East 0 Werribee City 5

Boys West 15 A: Geelong Bye , Altona East 1 Sunshine Georgies 0, Keilor Park 0 Brimbank City 4, Werribee City 1 GRFA 1, Sydenham Park Green Gully

Boys West 15 B North/West: Port Melbourne 9 Carlton Youth 2, Bacchus Marsh JSC 1 Keilor Wolves 22, Williamstown Lalor Utd , Altona City 4 Hoppers Crossing 1

Boys West 14 A: Hoppers Crossing South Yarra , Altona East 4 St. Albans 1, GRFA Werribee City , Sydenham Park Sunshine Georgies , North Geelong Warriors 0 Sunshine Heights 1

Boys West 14 B: Keilor Park Bye , Brimbank Ballarat Academy Of Soccer , North Sunshine Eagles 2 Melton 4, Western Eagles 1 Green Gully 4

Boys West 14 C North/West: Williamstown 9

Sunbury Utd 1, Gisborne 3 Hoppers Crossing 0, Melton 2 Preston Lions 2, Yarraville 6 DOC United FC 1, Avondale Heights 4 Wyndham Olympic 2

Boys West 13 A: Gisborne 2 Altona City 0, Geelong BASL , Keilor Park 0 Laverton Park 2, Williamstown 2 Sunshine Georgies 1, Green Gully 0 Cairnlea 0

Boys West 13 B: Brimbank Sydenham Park , Melton 2 Maribymong Greens 0, Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 12 Spring Hills 0, Werribee City 3 Brimbank City 1, Hoppers Crossing Williamstown

Boys West 13 C: Bacchus Marsh JSC 1 Brunswick Zebras 1, AVA Seagulls 1 Bundoora Utd 2, Upfield 3 FC Birarrung JFC 0, Port Melbourne Mitchell Rangers , Maribymong United 5 Flemington Eagles 3, Melbourne Lions Wyndham Olympic

Boys West 12 A: Sunshine Georgies 1 Williamstown 2, Melbourne Knights Gisborne , South Yarra 0 Keilor Park 1, Altona City 0 GRFA 1

Boys West 12 B: Melton 1 Brimbank 2, Melbourne Knights 2 Altona Magic 3, Keilor Park 3 South Yarra 1, Sydenham Park St. Albans , Green Gully 0 Cairnlea 3

Boys West 12 C: Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 6 Brimbank 1, Altona City 2 Keilor Wolves 2, Hoppers Crossing Laverton Park , Cairnlea 12 Gisborne 0, Spring Hills 2 Flemington Eagles 6, Williamstown Wyndham Olympic

Boys West 11 Kangaroos Green: Sunshine Georgies 2 Williamstown 3, Melbourne Knights 10 Altona East 0, South Yarra 2 Keilor Park 1, Werribee City 1 Altona City 2, Hoppers Crossing Green Gully

Boys West 11 Joeyes Red: Green Gully 1 Port Melbourne 1, Spring Hills 2 Hoppers Crossing 1, Laverton Park 4 Bacchus Marsh JSC 1, Werribee City 0 Altona City 1, Cairnlea 0 Gisborne 4

Boys West 11 Joeyes/Kangaroos Blue: Sydenham Park Sunshine Heights , Western Eagles 0 Maribymong Greens 3, Keilor Park 3 Brimbank City 6, Westvale 0 Brimbank 2, Williamstown 0 Green Gully 9

Girls Metro 18 A: Bye Boroondara Eagles JFC , Ashburton 10 Brimbank 0, Gisborne 3 Croydon City Arrows 1, Mooroolbark 0 Berwick City 1, Langwarrin 7 Whitehorse 0, Beaumaris Westgate

Girls Metro 16 A: GRFA 9 Langwarrin 0, Berwick City 2 Whitehorse 2, Meadow Park 3 Brunswick Zebras 4, Keilor Park 1 Richmond 2, Brandon Park 2 Brighton 3

Girls Metro 16 B: Doncaster Rovers Bye , Brunswick City 0 Diamond Valley Utd 5, Boroondara Lions 1 Sandringham City 0, Baxter 1 Keilor Wolves 2, Glen Waverley 2 Glen Eira 4

Girls N/W 16 C: Greenvale Utd 1 Altona City 10, Gisborne 4 Watsonia Heights 4, Sunbury Utd 3 Nunawading City 0, Pascoe Vale North City Lions , Ballarat Academy Of Soccer 3 Sydenham Park 0

Girls S/E 16 C: Endeavour Utd 0 East Bentleigh 1, Seaford Utd 0 Boronia 0, Mooroolbark 1 Mornington 4, Hampton Park Utd 1 Sherbrooke Rangers 1 2, FC Bulleen Lions 6 Sherbrooke Rangers 2 0

Girls Metro 15 A: Doncaster Rovers 4 Bundoora Utd 0, Dandenong Thunder 9 Hoppers Crossing 0, Brunswick Zebras Brighton , Sandringham City 4 Croydon City Arrows 0

Girls Metro 15 B: Altona City 1 Baxter 2, Casey Comets 1 Eltham North 0, Richmond 3 Carrum Utd 2, East Bentleigh 2 Langwarrin 1, Peninsula Strikers JFC 1 Caulfield Utd 0

Girls Metro 15 C: Chelsea 1 Glen Waverley 4, Whittlesea Zebras Watsonia Heights , Croydon City Arrows 1 Eastern Lions 1, Dandenong City 1 Sandringham City 8, Beaumaris Brighton

Girls N/W 15 D: Bye Epping City , Altona East 0 Bundoora Utd 8, Brimbank Cairnlea , Keilor Park 5 Brunswick Zebras 1

Girls S/E 15 D: Bye Heatherton Utd , Springvale White Eagles 2 Knox City 1, Boroondara Lions 4 Glen Eira 6, North Caulfield 2 Noble Park 0, Richmond 0 Carrum Utd 1

Girls Metro 14 A: Croydon City Arrows 6 Brighton 1, Sandringham City 1 Ashburton 4, Sherbrooke Rangers 0 Boroondara Lions 7, Bye Alphington , Essendon Royals 3 North Caulfield 1

Girls Metro 14 B: Diamond Valley Utd 3 Pascoe Vale 0, Boroondara Lions 1 Port Melbourne 3, Glen Eira Glen Waverley , Berwick City 2 Box Hill Inter 1, Brunswick Zebras South Melbourne :

Girls N/W 14 C: Doncaster Rovers 1 Watsonia Heights 0, DOC United FC Whittlesea Zebras , South Yarra 1 Eltham North 1, Keilor Park 6 Sunbury Utd 1, FC Bulleen Lions 1 Kensington JGSC 1

Girls S/E 14 C: Brandon Park 5 North Caulfield 0, Baxter 0 Sherbrooke Rangers 3, Eastern Lions 0 Boronia 1, Peninsula Strikers JFC 0 Brighton 0

Girls Metro 13 A: Bye Knox City , Ashburton 1 Sherbrooke Rangers 2, Richmond 0 Carrum Utd 1, Boroondara Lions 0 Croydon City Arrows 2, Keilor Park 4 Brunswick Zebras 1

Girls Metro 13 B: Boronia 2 Whitehorse 0, Eltham North 0 Brighton 3, Beaumaris 0 Hoppers Crossing 2, Nunawading City Glen Waver-

ley , Monash City 2 North Caulfield 0

Girls Metro 13 C: Glen Eira Peninsula Strikers JFC , Sandringham City 0 Banyule City 3, Casey Panthers 0 Oakleigh 4, Baxter 5 Brighton 0

Girls Metro 13 D: Bundoora Utd 1 Sydenham Park 1, Mornington 0 Glen Waverley 4, Heidelberg Utd 4 Boronia 0, Keilor Wolves 0 Carrum Utd 1

Girls Metro 12 A: Richmond 1 Ashburton 0, Boroondara Lions 1 Dandenong Thunder 2, Beaumaris 0 Hampton 0, Keilor Park 4 Brighton 2, Berwick City 6 Carrum Utd 0

Girls Metro 12 B: Glen Eira Brighton , Richmond 1 North Caulfield 2, Oakleigh 2 Sherbrooke Rangers 0, Eltham North 0 St. Albans 0, Ashburton 0 Sandringham City 0

Girls N/W 12 C: Bye Diamond Valley Utd , Green Gully 1 Brunswick Zebras 1 1, Brunswick Zebras 2 Watsonia Heights , Banyule City 1 Sunbury Utd 0, Essendon Royals 2 Kensington JGSC 0

Girls S/E 12 C: Bye Box Hill Inter , FC Bulleen Lions 2 Glen Waverley 1, Clifton Hill 1 Croydon City Arrows 5

Girls Metro 11 A: South Yarra 6 Sherbrooke Rangers 1, Stonnington City 0 Brighton 3, Ringwood City 0 North Caulfield 2, Ashburton Bye , East Bentleigh 3 Croydon City Arrows 0, Pascoe Vale Boroondara Lions

Girls Metro 11 B: Sandringham City 1 0 Sandringham City 2 0, Berwick City 1 Rosebud 0, North Caulfield Bye , Casey Panthers 1 Carrum Utd 0, Peninsula Strikers JFC 1 Brighton 0

Boys 18 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
FC Bulleen Lions	17	15	0	2	56	10	45
South Melbourne	17	13	1	3	70	23	40
Fawkner	16	11	1	4	48	17	34
Springvale White Eagles	17	8	5	4	31	18	29
Essendon Royals	17	8	4	5	40	16	28
Green Gully	17	7	5	5	30	31	26
Kingston City	17	6	5	6	28	32	23
Brunswick City	16	6	2	8	27	42	20
Keilor Park	17	5	2	10	17	28	17
Brimbank City	17	2	4	11	22	53	10
South Springvale	17	3	1	13	14	54	10
Casey Comets	17	1	2	14	19	78	5

Boys S/E 16 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
South Melbourne	13	10	2	1	42	17	32
Endeavour Utd	14	8	4	2	37	16	28
Springvale White Eagle	13	7	3	3	35	20	24
Doncaster Rovers	13	7	3	3	24	14	24
Chelsea	13	6	4	3	26	16	22
FC Bulleen Lions	14	5	6	3	26	21	21
Oakleigh	13	4	2	7	28	24	14
Berwick City	13	4	1	8	20	30	13
Box Hill Inter	14	1	2	11	7	49	5
Eastern Lions	14	0	3	11	8	46	3

Boys S/E 15 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
FC Bulleen Lions	13	9	2	2	36	12	29
Nunawading City	12	9	1	2	34	12	28
Monash City	12	7	2	3	38	17	23
North Caulfield	10	7	1	2	20	13	22
Mornington	12	6	3	3	24	15	21
Dandenong City	13	3	5	5	16	17	14
Oakleigh	12	2	1	9	7	35	7
Berwick City	12	2	0	10	13	38	6
Dandenong Thunder	12	1	1	10	7	36	4

Boys S/E 14 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
FC Bulleen Lions	13	9	3	1	26	7	30
Richmond	14	7	4	3	25	16	25
Beaumaris	13	7	3	3	21	12	24
South Melbourne	13	6	4	3	20	10	22
Monash City	14	5	6	3	16	16	21
Sandringham City	14	4	4	6	17	21	16
Peninsula Strikers JFC	14	4	3	7	16	23	15
Oakleigh	13	3	6	4	17	25	15
GSL	12	2	5	5	8	12	11
Box Hill Inter	14	0	2	12	7	31	2

Boys S/E 13 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
South Melbourne	13	13	0	0	57	3	39
Monash City	13	11	1	1	26	5	34
FC Bulleen Lions	14	7	4	3	32	15	25
Berwick City	13	6	2	5	20	17	20
Croydon City Arrows	14	6	1	7	23	29	19
N.T.C	13	3	6	4	18	19	15
GSL	12	2	5	5	19	28	11
Sandringham City	12	1	6	5	14	21	9
Brighton	14	2	2	10	17	42	8
Box Hill Inter	14	1	1	12	8	55	4

Boys N/W 16 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Keilor Park	13	8	2	3	34	16	26
Fawkner	12	8	2	2	25	18	26
Green Gully	12	8	1	3	26	22	25
Coburg Utd	12	7	2	3	30	19	23
Preston Lions	12	6	2	4	23	11	20
Hume Utd	12	4	2	6	19	25	14
Melbourne Knights	12	4	1	7	21	25	13
Sunshine Georgies	12	1	3	8	11	39	6
Cairnlea	13	1	1	11	13	27	4

Boys N/W 15 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Green Gully	12	9	2	1	41	10	29
Essendon Royals	12	8	1	3	33	12	25
Fawkner	11	7	2	2	21	10	23
Preston Lions	12	5	3	4	20	19	18
Sunshine Heights	11	4	2	5	13	16	14
Altona Magic	12	4	2	6	12	21	14
Keilor Park	12	4	0	8	15	28	12
Melbourne Knights	12	2	4	6	11	17	10
Ballarat Academy Of	12	2	0	10	7	40	6

Boys N/W 14 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Brimbank	12	10	2	0	47	6	32

Coburg Utd	14	9	2	3	29	15	29
Green Gully	13	8	3	2	25	15	27
Brunswick City	13	6	2	5	22	16	20
Essendon Royals	13	5	4	4	28	20	19
Melbourne Knights	14	4	5	5	11	16	17
Keilor Park	13	3	3	7	13	21	12
Whittlesea Zebras	12	3	2	7	9	32	11
Cairnlea	14	3	1	10	13	32	10
Hume Utd	14	2	2	10	13	37	8

Boys N/W 13 Super League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Green Gully	14	9	5	0	34	10	32
Essendon Royals	14	9	5	0	26	11	32
Melbourne Knights	14	6	5	3	26	14	23
Bundoora Utd	14	6	4	4	20	21	22
Keilor Park	14	6	3	5	24	22	21
Altona City	14	5	1	8	13	24	16
Brunswick Zebras	14	4	3	7	17	19	15
GRFA	13	3	3	7	16	26	12
North City Lions	13	2	3	8	20	32	9
Light Utd	14	1	4	9	8	25	7

Boys Metro 18 Blue

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Altona City	14	10	4	0	29	5	34
Manningham	14	10	2	2	27	13	32
Frankston Pines	14	9	3	2	39	12	30
Richmond	14	8	4	2	37	14	28
Cairnlea	13	7	1	5	34	21	22
Doncaster Rovers	13	4	3	6	21	27	15
Altona East	13	5	0	8	15	34	15
Stonnington City	13	3	1	9	22	32	10
Eastern Lions	14	1	2	11	9	41	5
Knox City	14	0	2	12	12	46	2

Results & Ladders

Boys South 12 D		FC Bulleen Lions	14 10 2 2 46 13 32	South Springvale	14 5 1 8 20 41 16	Boys East 11 Joeys Red		Hume Utd	14 4 1 9 18 34 13
	P W D L F APT	Richmond	14 9 1 4 43 23 28	Stonnington City	14 4 2 8 18 35 14		P W D L F APT	Bundoora Utd	13 2 2 9 16 40 8
Dandenong Thunder	14 14 0 0 93 6 42	Riversdale	14 6 4 4 37 20 22	North Caulfield	13 2 3 8 12 32 9	Knox City	14 14 0 0 64 4 42	Meadow Park	14 2 1 11 23 52 7
Doveton	14 9 2 3 36 15 29	Doncaster Rovers	13 6 1 6 18 24 19	Eastern Lions	14 0 2 12 7 61 2	Glen Waverley	14 8 3 3 23 12 27	Eltham North	13 1 1 11 9 47 4
Lyndale Utd	14 9 2 3 36 21 29	Caulfield Utd	14 5 2 7 17 32 17			Whitehorse	14 7 5 2 19 11 26		
East Bentleigh	14 6 4 4 26 25 22	North Caulfield	13 3 4 6 25 31 13	Boys East 12 A		Boroondara Lions	13 6 2 5 18 20 20		
Keysborough	14 5 4 5 28 32 19	Boronia	13 3 3 7 16 44 12		P W D L F APT	Doncaster Rovers	13 6 2 5 19 22 20	Boys North 12 B	
Carrum Utd	14 4 5 5 16 25 17	Manningham	14 1 4 9 14 34 7	South Melbourne	13 13 0 0 44 2 39	Oakleigh	13 4 4 5 18 25 16		P W D L F APT
Berwick City	14 4 4 6 19 36 16	Sherbrooke Rangers	14 2 1 11 12 39 7	Box Hill Inter	14 11 0 3 36 7 33	Ashburton	13 4 4 5 12 19 16		
Beaumaris	14 4 3 7 15 30 15			Richmond	14 8 2 4 49 21 26	Richmond	14 3 2 9 10 25 11		
Brighton	14 1 4 9 14 43 7	Boys East 15 C		Knox City	14 8 2 4 22 14 26	East Bentleigh	14 2 2 10 16 39 8	Brunswick Zebras	13 12 1 0 69 12 37
Baxter	14 0 0 14 1 51 0		P W D L F APT	FC Bulleen Lions	14 7 2 5 16 11 23	North Caulfield	12 1 0 11 5 27 3	Greenvale Utd	11 7 1 3 27 21 22
		Whitehorse	12 11 0 1 45 4 33	North Caulfield	13 5 3 5 15 14 18			Northcote City	11 6 1 4 23 19 19
Boys South 12 E		Ashburton 1	12 9 1 2 58 9 28	Monash City	13 6 0 7 20 22 18	Boys N/W 16 B		Light Utd	12 5 4 3 20 17 19
	P W D L F APT	Brandon Park	12 8 3 1 26 5 27	Riversdale	14 4 0 10 16 29 12			Preston Lions	11 6 0 5 27 15 18
Casey Panthers	14 12 1 1 50 10 37	Ringwood City	11 8 0 3 24 18 24	Ashburton	14 1 0 13 1 60 3	Boys North 16 A		Moreland City	13 5 3 5 26 22 18
Harrisfield Hurricanes	14 12 1 1 35 3 37	Mooroolbark	13 6 1 6 23 26 19	Oakleigh	13 0 1 12 4 43 1		P W D L F APT	Moreland Wolves	13 4 2 7 15 26 14
Baxter (Western Port)	14 10 1 3 62 23 31	North Caulfield	11 2 3 6 13 33 9	Boys East 12 B		Essendon Royals	13 11 0 2 43 12 33	Coburg Utd	12 2 0 10 7 43 6
Beaumaris	14 8 1 5 46 23 25	Glen Waverley	12 2 2 8 18 35 8		P W D L F APT	Bundoora Utd	11 8 1 2 37 20 25	Fawkner	12 1 0 11 8 47 3
Casey Comets	14 7 1 6 31 27 22	Ashburton 2	13 2 0 11 9 51 6	Doncaster Rovers	12 10 2 0 47 5 32	Northcote City	12 7 2 3 26 16 23		
Sandringham City	13 5 2 6 18 20 17	Boroondara Lions	12 0 2 10 8 43 2	Box Hill Inter	13 10 2 1 40 11 32	Heidelberg Stars	12 5 3 4 41 25 18	Boys North 12 C	
Brighton	14 4 1 9 16 38 13			FC Bulleen Lions	11 8 0 3 30 12 24	Whittlesea Zebras	12 4 4 4 24 30 16		P W D L F APT
Rosebud	12 2 4 6 10 33 10	Boys East 14 A		Richmond	12 8 0 4 36 22 24	Moreland Utd	11 4 2 5 29 26 14	Moreland Utd	14 12 1 1 56 9 37
Seaford Utd	14 1 1 12 7 59 4		P W D L F APT	Glen Waverley	12 4 0 8 15 25 12	Brunswick Zebras	11 4 0 7 29 34 12	Essendon Royals	14 10 3 1 45 17 33
Peninsula Strikers JFC	13 0 1 12 9 48 1	Knox City	14 13 1 0 92 7 40	Oakleigh	12 3 2 7 17 32 11	Epping City	12 2 1 9 10 33 7	Diamond Valley Utd	13 9 2 2 30 9 29
		Whitehorse	14 10 2 2 46 7 32	Clayton	13 3 2 8 10 32 11	Coburg Utd	12 1 1 10 12 55 4	Alphington	14 6 2 6 31 31 20
Boys South 11 Kangaroos Green		Doncaster Rovers	13 8 3 2 34 11 27	Springvale City	12 2 1 9 15 39 7			Banyule City	13 6 1 6 19 25 19
	P W D L F APT	FC Bulleen Lions	14 8 2 4 28 19 26	Manningham	13 1 3 9 9 41 6	Boys North 16 B		Hume Utd	14 5 3 6 31 20 18
Brighton	13 11 1 1 66 7 34	North Caulfield	12 6 1 5 25 36 19				P W D L F APT	Heidelberg Utd	13 4 3 6 17 26 15
Beaumaris	13 8 3 2 49 8 27	Casey Comets	13 3 3 7 16 31 12	Boys East 12 C		Light Utd	13 12 1 0 106 9 37	Watsonia Heights	14 3 2 9 18 34 11
South Eastern Piranhas	12 8 2 2 48 12 26	Glen Waverley	14 3 2 9 15 44 11		P W D L F APT	Essendon Utd	13 10 0 3 65 15 30	Epping City	13 3 1 9 15 31 10
Mornington	12 7 4 1 40 8 25	Brandon Park	14 3 1 10 11 39 10	Doncaster Rovers	14 12 2 0 59 5 38	Watsonia Heights	14 7 3 4 43 26 24	Sunbury Utd	14 0 2 12 9 69 2
Bentleigh Greens	13 6 3 4 35 14 21	Manningham	14 3 1 10 16 54 10	South Springvale	14 9 4 1 40 11 31	DOC United FC	12 7 1 4 47 27 22		
Dandenong City	13 6 1 6 29 28 19	Waverley Wanderers	14 1 4 9 9 44 7	Sherbrooke Rangers	14 9 3 2 35 15 30	Moreland Wolves	12 6 1 5 32 30 19		
Endeavour Utd	12 2 0 10 5 53 6			Richmond	14 8 3 3 41 10 27	Bundoora Utd	13 5 2 6 35 31 17	Boys North 12 D	
Peninsula Strikers JFC	12 1 0 11 7 61 3	Boys East 14 B		North Caulfield	13 6 1 6 30 15 19	Mitchell Rangers	13 2 1 10 15 65 7		P W D L F APT
Kingston City	12 0 0 12 1 89 0		P W D L F APT	FC Bulleen Lions	14 5 3 6 28 24 18	Sunbury Utd	14 1 1 12 10 94 4	Plenty Valley Lions	14 12 1 1 52 11 37
		Stonnington City	14 13 1 0 45 5 40	Lalor	14 4 3 7 28 35 15	Brunswick Zebras	13 0 0 13 14 110 0	North Lions	13 12 0 0 161 12 36
Boys South 11 Kangaroos Yellow		Ringwood City	13 10 0 3 28 17 30	Glen Eira	13 2 4 7 17 34 10			DOC United FC	13 10 0 3 51 19 30
	P W D L F APT	Riversdale	13 9 2 2 33 15 29	Glen Waverley	14 2 1 11 14 44 7	Boys North 15 A		Brunswick Zebras	13 8 0 5 40 23 24
Springvale White Eag	14 14 0 0 73 5 42	Eastern Lions	14 6 2 6 29 26 20	Mooroolbark	14 0 0 14 3 102 0		P W D L F APT	Pascoe Vale	14 7 1 6 46 33 22
Berwick City	14 11 0 3 40 15 33	Knox City	13 5 4 4 27 22 19			Essendon Royals	13 10 3 0 64 13 33	North City Lions	14 4 2 8 18 40 14
GSL	13 9 1 3 33 11 28	Noble Park	14 5 2 7 28 32 17	Boys East 12 D		Fawkner	14 9 2 3 50 27 29	Mitchell Rangers	14 4 2 8 20 43 14
Langwarrin	13 8 0 5 32 22 24	Doncaster Rovers	13 4 2 7 23 21 14		P W D L F APT	Bundoora Utd	13 8 2 3 25 16 26	Broadmeadows Utd	14 3 1 8 16 28 13
Sandringham City	14 6 2 6 31 33 20	Glen Waverley	14 3 3 8 21 33 12	Nunawading City	13 11 2 0 26 7 35	Moreland City	13 7 2 4 45 25 23	Eltham North	14 0 0 14 7 76 0
Southern Stars	14 5 2 7 12 14 17	North Caulfield	12 2 1 9 12 42 7	Croydon City Arrows	14 7 4 3 21 18 25	Epping City	13 6 3 4 29 21 21		
Brandon Park	14 4 4 6 21 37 16	Croydon City Arrows	14 0 3 11 6 39 3		P W D L F APT	Lalor Utd	13 4 2 7 20 29 14		
Hampton	14 3 2 9 12 33 11			Boys East 14 C		Brunswick Zebras	13 4 1 8 21 25 13	Boys North 11 Kangaroos Yellow	
Aspendale	14 2 1 11 15 44 7				P W D L F APT	Light Utd	12 3 0 9 15 58 9		P W D L F APT
Chelsea	14 1 0 13 5 60 3	Melbourne Phoenix	14 14 0 0 126 5 42			Heidelberg Utd	14 0 0 14 12 84 0	Fawkner	13 10 1 2 33 8 31
		Whitehorse	14 11 1 2 76 11 34					Sunbury Utd	14 9 3 2 30 11 30
Boys South 11 Kangaroos/Joeys Red		Richmond	14 10 0 4 53 17 30	Boys East 12 E				Brunswick Zebras	12 9 1 2 47 15 28
	P W D L F APT	Boronia	14 7 1 6 38 32 22		P W D L F APT			Bundoora Utd	14 7 4 3 39 17 25
Mornington	14 13 1 0 56 5 40	Mooroolbark	13 5 0 8 30 46 15	Whitehorse	12 10 1 1 37 14 31	Northcote City	14 11 1 2 53 18 34	Lalor Utd	14 7 3 4 44 16 24
Beaumaris	14 11 2 1 83 6 35	Heidelberg Utd	14 5 0 9 17 82 15	Boroondara Lions	11 9 0 2 59 11 27	Moreland Utd	14 11 0 3 47 14 33	Brunswick City	12 4 3 5 24 15 15
Brighton 1	14 10 1 3 53 7 31	Doncaster Rovers	13 1 1 11 9 64 4	Croydon City Arrows	13 6 5 2 25 14 23	Diamond Valley Utd	14 10 1 3 46 23 31	Epping City	13 4 3 6 18 21 15
Brighton 2	14 7 1 6 28 17 22	Caulfield Utd	14 0 1 13 7 99 1	Eastern Lions	12 5 5 2 15 11 20	Plenty Valley Lions	13 10 0 3 52 19 30	Heidelberg Stars	13 3 1 9 15 30 10
Sandringham City	14 3 2 9 10 33 11			Richmond	12 5 3 4 12 13 18	Brunswick City	13 6 3 4 37 31 21	Diamond Valley Utd	13 2 1 10 3 47 7
Hampton	14 3 2 9 8 48 11			North Caulfield	12 4 1 7 16 21 13	Epping City	14 3 1 10 23 53 10	Meadow Park	14 1 0 13 9 82 3
Aspendale	14 2 1 11 6 84 7			Doncaster Rovers	12 3 2 7 16 29 11	Moreland City	14 3 1 10 21 67 10		
Keysborough	14 2 0 12 14 58 6			Ashburton	13 2 2 9 4 42 8	Watsonia Heights	14 1 4 9 18 38 7	Boys North 11 Joeys Blue	
				Ringwood City	11 0 1 10 5 34 1	Heidelberg Stars	14 0 0 1 13 12 63 1		P W D L F APT
Boys South 11 Joeys Blue				Boys East 12 F				Northcote City	13 11 0 2 51 6 33
	P W D L F APT				P W D L F APT			Light Utd	13 10 1 2 54 11 31
Hampton Park Utd	14 13 0 1 51 5 39			Clifton Hill	12 12 0 0 81 0 36	Boys North 14 A		Moreland Utd	12 8 2 2 29 6 26
Beaumaris	14 10 1 3 35 10 31			Knox City	12 9 0 3 49 15 27		P W D L F APT	Bundoora Utd	12 6 3 3 23 13 21
Berwick City	14 8 1 5 19 24 25			Glen Waverley	12 6 1 5 32 30 19	Epping City	13 10 1 2 40 16 31	Fawkner	12 6 2 4 30 16 20
Brighton	14 6 4 4 18 23 22			Doncaster Rovers	11 4 1 6 13 33 13	Watsonia Heights	14 8 3 3 29 13 27	Moreland City	12 4 2 6 19 24 14
Baxter	14 5 3 6 6 11 18			Ashburton	11 3 2 6 19 53 11	Bundoora Utd	14 7 4 3 27 11 24	Mitchell Rangers	13 1 3 9 9 56 6
Sandringham City	14 3 3 8 11 20 12			Croydon City Arrows	12 3 1 8 14 47 10	Sunbury Utd	14 5 5 4 20 16 20	Avondale Heights	11 1 1 9 5 39 4
Peninsula Strikers JFC	14 3 1 10 8 23 10			Boronia	12 0 3 9 9 39 3	Essendon Royals	14 4 2 8 23 39 14	Banyule City	12 0 2 10 6 55 2
Carrum Utd	14 1 1 12 6 38 4					Greenvale Utd	13 3 4 6 17 19 12		
				Boys East 11 Kangaroos Green		Eltham North	13 2 1 10 15 30 7	Boys North 11 Joeys/Kangaroos Orange	
Boys South 11 Joeys Orange					P W D L F APT	Clifton Hill	14 0 1 13 7 59 1		P W D L F APT
	P W D L F APT			Doncaster Rovers	13 10 3 0 36 8 33	Boys North 14 B		Essendon Royals 1	14 14 0 0 121 1 42
Doveton	14 12 1 1 50 7 37			Richmond	13 10 3 0 26 3 33		P W D L F APT	Alphington 1	14 11 1 2 42 20 34
Casey Comets	14 9 4 1 38 10 31			Oakleigh	13 8 3 2 27 13 27	Moreland City	14 11 3 0 52 10 36	Yarraville	14 9 1 4 48 18 28
Berwick City	14 7 5 2 35 9 26			Croydon City Arrows	14 9 0 5 26 18 27	Brunswick Zebras	12 11 0 0 1 60 9 33	Eltham North 1	14 7 3 4 35 15 24
Mornington	14 6 5 3 20 12 23			Box Hill Inter	14 3 4 7 15 24 13	Meadow Park	13 6 4 3 29 13 22	Essendon Royals 2	14 6 3 5 36 23 21
Beaumaris	14 3 6 5 11 19 15			FC Bulleen Lions	14 3 2 9 10 22 11	Watsonia Heights	14 6 2 6 33 24 20	Greenvale Utd	13 6 2 5 34 23 20
Seaford Utd	14 3 2 9 15 38 11			Ashburton	14 1 2 11 7 27 5	Northcote City	14 6 2 6 26 26 20	Heidelberg Utd	14 6 0 8 21 40 18
Bentleigh Greens	14 2 2 10 9 49 8			Caulfield Utd	13 1 1 11 3 35 4	Whittlesea Zebras	13 6 0 7 46 32 18	Alphington 2	14 3 0 11 12 66 9
Brighton	14 0 3 11 4 38 3					Banyule City	14 5 1 8 29 31 16	Watsonia Heights	14 2 0 12 8 76 6
		Boys East 13 B		Boys East 11 Kangaroos Orange		Bundoora Utd	13 4 3 6 13 21 15	Eltham North 2	13 0 0 13 6 81 0
	P W D L F APT		P W D L F APT		P W D L F APT				
Whitehorse	14 10 0 4 31 15 30	Richmond	13 9 2 2 36 7 29	Hampton	13 11 1 1 41 3 34	Boys North 14 C			
Manningham	14 9 1 4 30 19 28	FC Bulleen Lions	12 8 4 0 29 4 28	South Melbourne	12 10 1 1 52 6 31		P W D L F APT		
Nunawading City	12 9 1 2 26 15 28	Knox City	13 8 0 5 25 10 24	Whitehorse	12 8 2 2 28 7 26	FC City Central	12 12 0 0 78 1 36	Whittlesea Zebras	13 13 0 0 66 1 39
Sherbrooke Rangers	14 7 0 7 34 30 21	Ashburton	12 6 1 5 21 18 19	Knox Utd	13 5 3 5 21 16 18	Moreland Wolves	12 8 0 4 52 30 24	St. Albans Saints	14 9 4 1 44 6 31
FC Bulleen Lions	14 7 0 7 31 27 21	Clayton	11 3 2 6 10 14 11	Oakleigh	12 5 2 5 22 18 17	North City Lions	10 7 2 1 45 11 23	North City Lions	14 10 1 3 45 11 31
Doncaster Rovers	13 7 0 6 26 28 21	Avondale Heights	12 3 1 8 16 22 10	North Caulfield	11 4 1 6 11 20 13	North City Lions	12 6 2 4 36 31 20	Plenty Valley Lions	14 6 3 5 30 29 21
Riversdale	14 6 2 6 29 20 20	Glen Eira	11 0 0 11 4 66 0	Richmond	13 4 1 8 11 40 13	Brunswick Zebras	12 5 3 4 37 28 18	Moreland Wolves	14 5 2 7 20 31 17
Richmond	14 4 0 10 29 45 12			Riversdale	12 2 0 10 5 41 6	Coburg Utd	12 5 3 4 37 28 18	Brunswick Zebras	13 4 2 7 12 14 14
Oakleigh	12 3 1 8 24 40 40			Mooroolbark	12 0 1 11 3 43 1	Essendon Royals	11 4 2 5 24 25 14	Upfield	14 4 2 8 17 45 14
Clayton	13 2 1 10 13 34 7					Alphington	13 3 3 7 34 34 12	Hume Utd	14 3 2 9 8 29 11
		Boys East 13 C		Boys East 11 Kangaroos Yellow		Banyule City	12 1 1 10 12 63 4	Clifton Hill	14 2 4 8 16 38

One year later, US Beckham-mania slows while MLS grows

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - David Beckham, who sparked a wave of "Beckhamania" one year ago when he joined the Los Angeles Galaxy, has seen the fascination slow and Major League Soccer grow due in part to his arrival.

The 33-year-old English international midfielder still draws sellout crowds, quadrupling New York Red Bulls attendance to more than 46,000 earlier this month, and Beckham souvenirs remain among the league's most popular items.

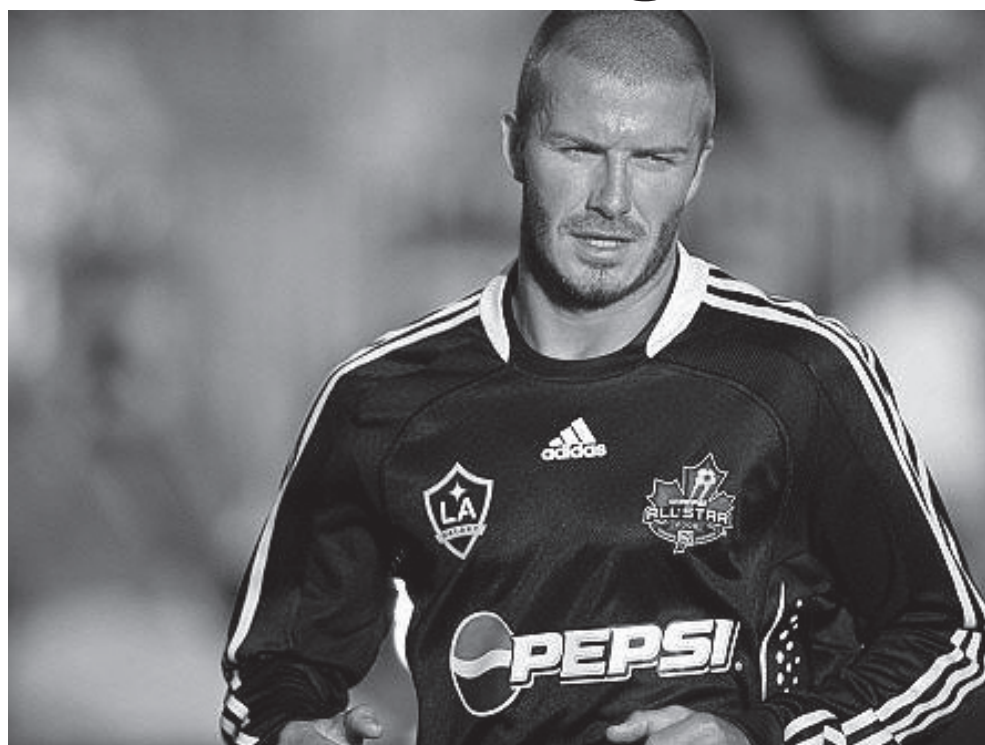
While the hype has cooled, attendance leaps when Beckham arrives in MLS venues and he deserves a lion's share of credit for the growth spurt the US league is enjoying, the latest example being plans to add two teams by 2011.

"I'd like to think so," Beckham said of his playing a major role in boosting the sport in America. "It's one of the reasons why I moved here, to be a part of growing the game here. Hopefully people are seeing the changes.

"Attendances are up 20 percent. Shirt sales are up 780 percent, so I heard. So it's going well. That's obviously what the game needs in this country. The hype is there and it's just about keeping it going."

Beckham's 250 million-dollar deal to jump from Real Madrid to the Galaxy brought him and wife Victoria, better known to many as Posh Spice of the Spice Girls, to Hollywood and they have been regulars on the celebrity scene.

While Beckham missed most of his debut season with injuries, he has fulfilled the promise of last year's hoopla this season in



David Beckham: The rebel with an American cause

quieter fashion and helped ensure the long-term stability and growth of the US football league.

"Soccer is definitely changing in this country and it's getting bigger, but it's going to take time," Beckham said.

"It's not just going to happen in a year or two. It's a long-term plan to raise the profile of the game in the country and it's going well so far."

MLS has 14 teams, adding Toronto last year and San Jose this season.

Seattle Sounders will join next year with Philadelphia to follow in 2010 and MLS commissioner Don Garber said Thursday that two new clubs will be added by 2011.

Cities being considered for the newest clubs include Montreal, Ottawa and Vancouver in Canada and the US markets of Atlanta, Las Vegas, Portland, St. Louis and a second club in the New York area.

"There are a lot of people putting a lot of money into this league and trying to grow it, and in the next few years you going

to see that emergence," Beckham said.

"I've always said that the level here is a lot higher than people actually think it is. I've been here a year now and seen some of the talented players and teams that are in this league."

Beckham, whose contract runs through to 2011, has scored five goals and set up seven more for the Galaxy in 16 MLS matches this year. The Galaxy missed the 2007 playoffs but is fighting for the Western Conference lead this year.

More time, money and support will be needed to transform MLS into a league capable of luring big-name stars in their prime from European clubs, but Beckham sees a bright future for US players such as Jozy Altidore, who went to Villarreal of Spain last month from New York.

"It's going to take longer than a year to happen, but this league and the teams in it will start attracting players from Europe," Beckham said.

"It's not just about ticket sales. It's not just about attendances. It's not just about selling shirts.

"On the other side, you see Jozy Altidore go to Villarreal and so if you're a good player in this league, you're going to have a chance to play in other big leagues in the world, in Europe.

"To be honest, I've always said that the level is a lot higher here than people actually think it is. Every game is a tough game. We do want to get it to the level of other leagues in the world.

"It will take time, but it's not that far away."

Gossip and Transfer Speculation from the English Media...



Yorke Fractures Cheek

Sunderland midfielder Dwight Yorke is likely to miss the rest of the Premier League club's pre-season programme after suffering a suspected fractured cheekbone.

Yorke, 36, was hurt in a collision with goalkeeper Nikola Milojevic in Wednesday's draw against Vitoria Setubal in Portugal. The former Manchester United star, who signed a new one-year contract at the end of last season, will now have X-rays to determine the full extent of the injury.

"We thought it was just a bang on the head, but there could be a fracture there, around his eye. He will be out for a number of weeks," Black Cats boss Roy Keane said.

Capello Urges Lampard

England coach Fabio Capello on Friday urged Frank Lampard to snub Inter Milan and stay at Chelsea.

Lampard is a transfer target for Inter boss Jose Mourinho, who worked with the England star during his spell in charge at Stamford Bridge.

The 30-year-old has just a year to run on his current contract and is yet to announce a decision over his future, but Capello believes the England team would benefit if he remained in west London.

"As England coach I would prefer it if Lampard remained in England. He would have less travelling to do that way," he told the Sun.

Capello has good reason to want Lampard to stay close to home because the Italian already has such a shallow pool of English talent to choose from.

"I'm worse off than (Italy coach) Marcello Lippi, than everyone. I have Welsh players, Scottish, Irish," he said.

"In the Premier League only 35 per cent of the players are English. In Italy it's about 72 per cent."

Adriano's Inter Delight

Brazil forward Adriano said he was delighted to pull on the Inter Milan shirt again after a year in which alcoholism and depression threatened to derail his career.

Adriano played at the head of a three-pronged attack in the first half of Inter's 1-0 friendly victory over Saudis Al Hilal on Thursday as coach Jose Mourinho remained loyal to the system he favoured at Chelsea.

It was the 26 year-old's first assignment for Inter since October last year as in November he was sent to Sao Paulo in his native Brazil in a bid to rediscover his shape and form.

That was a success as he scored 16 goals in 25 matches, despite a troubled beginning with the club in which he was dismissed against Santos for a head-butt. But now he is reaping the rewards.

"I've rediscovered my best condition in little time," he told the official Inter website. "I feel good and I'm delighted to be back in the team."

Rover Robinson

Blackburn Rovers on Friday signed Tottenham's England goalkeeper Paul Robinson for 3.5 million pounds (4.44 million euros), the Lancashire club announced.

With the deal sealed, it's expected that Rovers' long-serving keeper Brad Friedel will complete his two million pound move to fellow English Premier League side Aston Villa.

The 28-year-old Robinson will be hoping for a fresh start at Ewood Park after a remarkable fall from grace at White Hart Lane which started when he was dropped as England's number one, and ended with his first-team spot under Juande Ramos threatened by Radek Cerny and summer signing Heurelho Gomes.



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JULY 1,2,3 & 8,9,10
9.30am to 3.30pm**

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